





HISTORY  
*of the*  
CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
*in*  
INDIANA  
*by*

HISTORICAL COMMITTEES OF THE DISTRICTS

MIDDLE INDIANA	-	-	-	-	-	<i>V. F. Schwalm</i> <i>L. W. Shultz</i> <i>C. Ray Keim</i>
NORTHERN INDIANA	-	-	-	-	-	<i>C. C. Cripe</i> <i>Harvey Bowers</i> <i>Russell Sherman</i>
SOUTHERN INDIANA	-	-	-	-	-	<i>Mary Stoner Wine</i> <i>J. S. Alldredge (deceased)</i> <i>L. S. Shively</i>

PUBLISHED

*By*

AUTHORIZATION OF THE DISTRICT CONFERENCES  
*of the*

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN  
IN INDIANA

1952

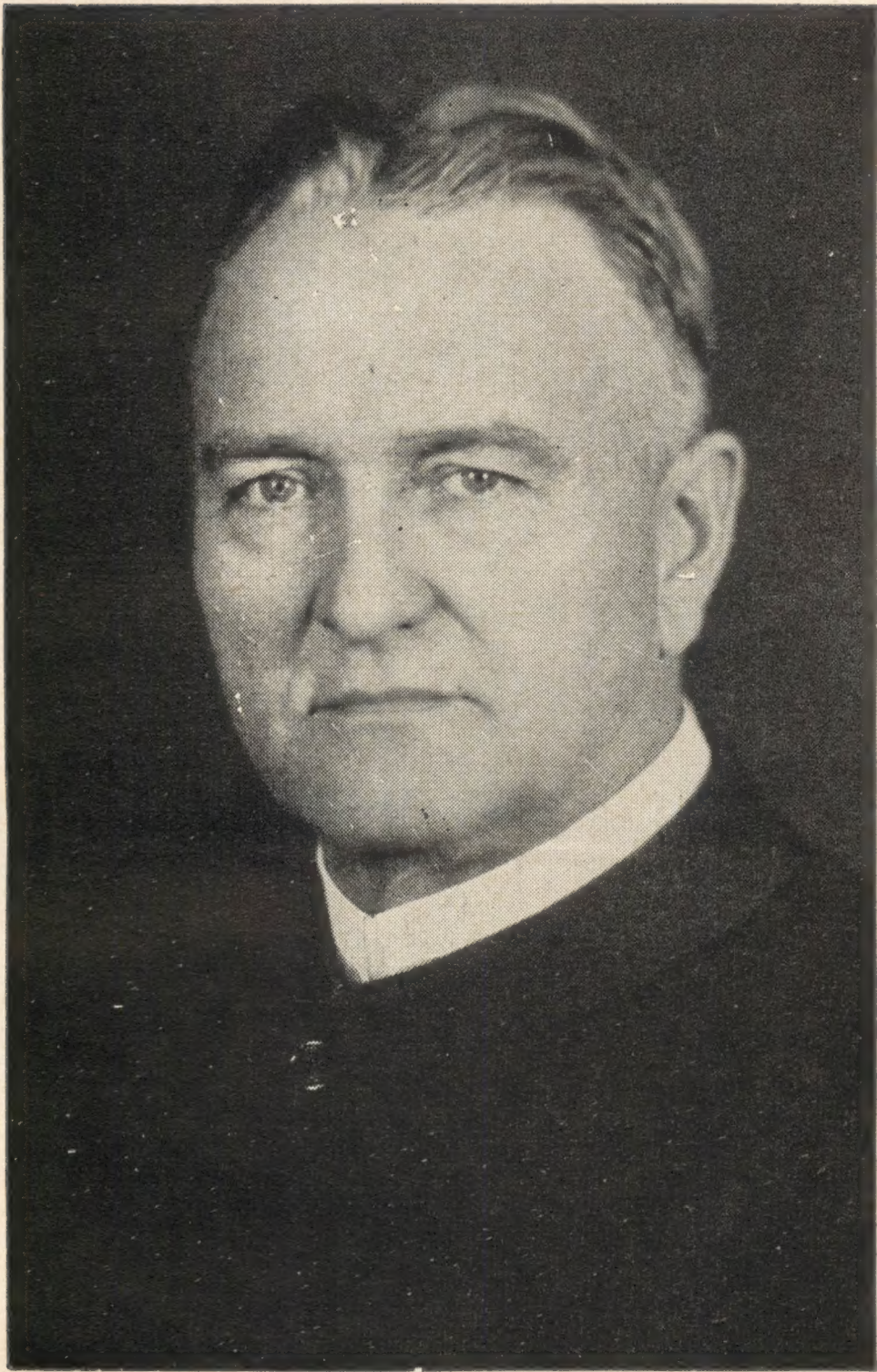


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*in*  
INDIANA

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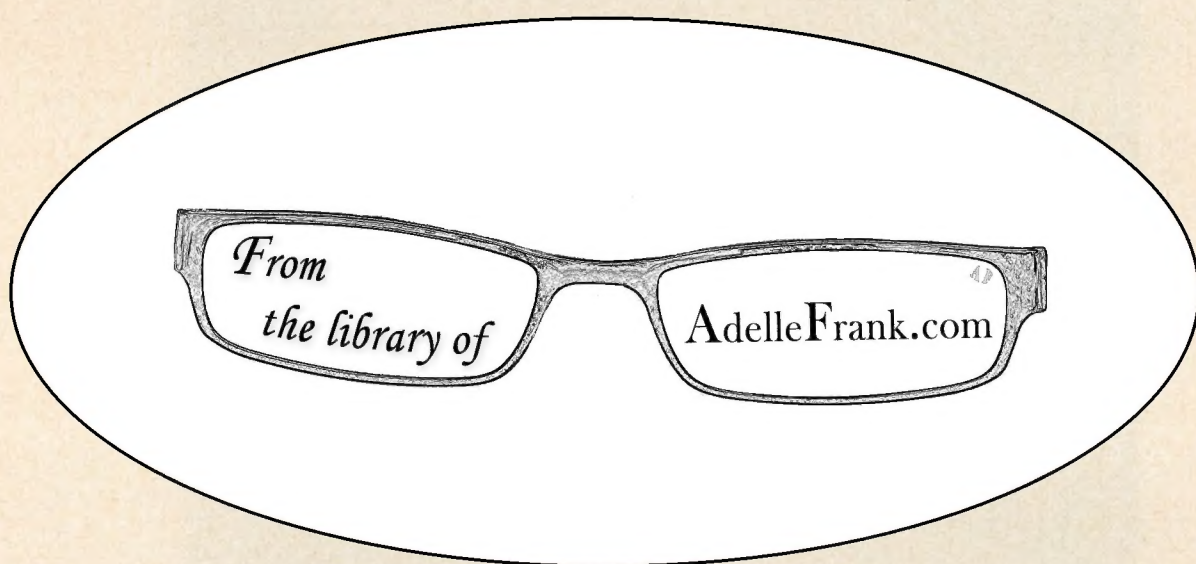
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1952





*This book is dedicated to the memory of Otho Winger, preacher, educator, statesman, author, citizen, friend—foremost leader of the Church of the Brethren in Indiana in the twentieth century.*







## PREFACE

In 1917 there appeared a book entitled, "History of the Church of the Brethren in Indiana," by Otho Winger. This book abounded in interesting information about the churches down to that date. Brother Winger felt that the history of the churches would be stimulating to the readers and serve as a convenient reference for much information that would soon be lost if no one collected it and put it in an available form.

There is little doubt that the book served the purposes for which the author wrote it. It has been a source of information, interest, and inspiration to thousands. A few years ago sentiment began to develop for extending this history to the years since 1917. The sentiment grew and each district appointed a committee to gather historical data. These committee members were as follows: Northern Indiana, Charles C. Cripe, Harvey S. Bowers, and Russell A. Sherman; Southern Indiana, Mrs. G. L. Wine, J. S. Alldredge (d. 1950), and L. S. Shively; Middle Indiana, V. F. Schwalm, L. W. Shultz, and C. Ray Keim.

This committee asked each church to furnish data. Most of the information on congregations was obtained by the fine cooperation of individuals who, at considerable cost of time, furnished the district committees with the data which they compiled.

Since it was impossible to append data from 1917 to Bro. Winger's account, the general plan was to re-write the earlier period and bring it down to date with new material. For the material on the years prior to 1917, the committee relied heavily on the Winger book, usually condensing it somewhat. This was a difficult task and the results may not have been perfect in all cases, but the committee can at least plead good intentions.

For certain parts of this book, reference was had to the Gospel Messenger, Missionary Visitor, Minutes of the District Meetings, Minutes of the Annual Conference, sketches of persons furnished by gracious individuals, congregational histories, and other sources, besides the information sent in from the local churches. Doubtless the book is not free from errors of fact. It also may suffer from errors of judgment, but the committee hopes that the work possesses sufficient merit to make it a valuable asset to the churches.

Quite a number of pictures have been reproduced from the book by Otho Winger. Many new ones, including one of every church house, have been added. As in any such work, the task of selecting these pic-



tures was most difficult and the committee hopes that their labors will meet with general approbation.

When the question of dedication arose, the committee had little difficulty in deciding that this book ought to be dedicated to him who was doubtless the foremost leader in the church since 1917 and who did the pioneer work in the field to be covered.

Finally, this book is presented in the hope it will contribute to the preservation of priceless material and will be an inspiration to us to carry forward the labors in the Kingdom, so faithfully begun by our fathers.



## INTRODUCTION TO CONGREGATIONAL HISTORIES

Indiana was still a Territory in 1809 when our first Brethren Church in the State was organized (at Four Mile). Pioneer conditions prevailed which meant log cabins, bad roads (if any!), Indian problems, distant markets, lack of educational, cultural, and religious facilities.

These hardy pioneers plunged into the wilderness to establish their homes. Wherever they went they made every effort to have religious services—first in the homes and then in rude log structures used as meeting houses. We get a real thrill today when we read the story of these pioneer fathers who lighted their altar fires as well as the fires in the hearths. The arduous labors of our pioneer preachers is a story that all should read. There was the mother, left to manage the home, with its numerous brood, while the father was away preaching the Gospel to the dwellers of the wilderness. Preaching was not a profession with them; it was a strenuous adventure of hardship and sacrifice, as well as a joy, to these devoted soldiers of the Cross.

As soon as a family or two of Brethren settled in a particular place they began to have services, even if a minister was not available. Traveling ministers would reach them presently. One might move in or one of the laymen might be called to the ministry. Whatever the details, the little church was soon launched in the back-woods. Often the organization took place when scarcely a dozen members were within reach of the meetings (not church). Then they would build a church or meetinghouse. The membership was usually scattered over several miles of wilderness. Presently a move was started to build a house in another section of the territory or hold services in the homes in that section. If the sections were fairly close together, they might constitute one congregation with several preaching points. Later, one or more might be separated from the parent church and become new congregations.

Reading the story of the Brethren in Indiana impresses one with the tremendous amount of missionary work that the early preachers did. They preached in saw-mills, school houses, homes, mills, and many other places. This work resulted in many churches in new communities. Naturally, not all of these would be permanent. Some soon disappeared but the general trend was in the direction of an increase in the reach of the Gospel. The peak of preaching points or churchhouses seems to



have been reached a little over a century after the first church was planted, or around 1910-15. Changes in transportation allowed consolidations where churchhouses were now too close together. A rapid movement to the cities in the early nineteen hundreds depleted the membership of some rural churches. Lack of leadership, internal troubles, and other causes added to the above situations, account for the loss of many preaching points. The off-setting factor has been the gains in the cities. Yet, the fact remains that we have lost ground in certain areas where the church died out. Territorially speaking, our principal gains have been in the cities during the last half century. We have scarcely held our own in the extent of rural area covered.

It is the hope of those who have brought together the material for this book that the story it tells may be a real challenge to us. We cannot imitate the pioneer fathers always in methods but we need to equal, or even excel them, in achievements. They blazed the trail; we have this rich heritage. We who are the Church of today will write the next chapter, the church of tomorrow. May that chapter record great gains for the Kingdom.



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## CHAPTER I

### CONGREGATIONS—MIDDLE INDIANA

#### AKRON (Co-operative)

Prior to 1930 the Brethren Church had a congregation near Akron called the Highland Church. At the above date the services at this house were discontinued and services were begun in the town of Akron. The outgrowth of this was a movement by this group and members of the Church of the Brethren, who had no church home in the community, to form a co-operative group. This was accomplished in 1934 when a constitution was adopted by the congregation on November 11. The Church of the Brethren was officially represented by Elder Edward Kintner and the Brethren Church by Dr. Charles A. Bame.

For four years Russell Stout served as pastor. Then A. T. Ronk served for two years and he was followed by Lewis Engle who served for several months. Then followed William Overholser for five and a half years; Dale Brubaker for one and a half years; and Arthur Tinkel for four years, leaving in the summer of 1951. John Smeltzer is now Pastor.

A system of alternating evangelists from the two denominations was followed. Meetings were held by Dr. Charles A. Bame, B. Rollins, J. O. Winger, Leonard Custer, and C. A. Stewart.

Six deacons have served the church: A. E. Dickerhoff, Frank Smith, Fred Walgemuth, Fred Dickerhoff, Paul Pugh, and Wayne Engle.

The superintendents of the Sunday school have been A. E. Dickerhoff, Mrs. Fred Walgemuth, Edward Kroft, and Joseph Kroft.

For a number of years the pastor acted as administrative head of the church, presiding at council meetings. For the last four and a half years the church has had a presiding elder, Edward Kintner.

#### ANDREWS

Elder William Moss, of Mexico, preached in the vicinity of Antioch, now Andrews, as early as 1838. There were probably other meetings but the first resident minister was Joseph Leedy, 1853. Preaching was held in Leedy's cabin, in his barn, then in the new schoolhouse in Antioch. Elder John Leedy, brother of Joseph, moved in from Ohio and helped in the work. The church grew by migrations and baptisms.



In 1855 the scattered members were organized as the Antioch church with the Leedy brothers as elders. Elder John Bowman spent the later years of his life and Elder Samuel Murray a few years in this church. Early deacons were Joseph Zook, George Shroyer, Thomas Bailey, and William Bruss. Later deacons were John Crull, Sam Mater, George Rinker, J. H. Barker, A. B. Miller, Isaac Bowles, M. L. Zook, and John Mater. More recently deacons have been elected as follows: Charles Eckman (1915), Wilbur Quinn (1920), Howard Z. Jeffrey (1920), Ivan McDaniel (1930), Roy Freshour (1930), Harry Crull (1940), Arthur Priser (1940), and Frank Heitz (1940—d. 1949).

Ministers elected before 1881 were Daniel Hinley, Abraham Leedy, Michael Minnich, O. C. Ellis, J. W. Southwood, Jesse Calvert, Stephen Minnich, and Joseph Lair. Of these, Southwood went with the Old Orders, Calvert with the Progressives, and Minnich and Lair left the church altogether. In more recent years the church has called to the ministry Ray Lantz and Glenn Mulligan.

The present church was built in Antioch in 1860. It was unusual in its day because it was in town and had a bell. In 1866, when Indiana was divided into districts, the meeting was held in this church. Being a strong church, there was serious consideration of founding a Brethren college there. As the membership grew to the south, a house was erected in the village of Dora, seven miles away. In 1881 there were 110 members at Dora but there was trouble and division and many left the church. With the deaths of the Leedys (John, 1881, Abraham, 1898, and Joseph, 1903) and lack of other leadership, the work suffered considerably. Elder Noah Fisher was pastor and elder for a number of years. The Mission Board of the district placed Ira E. Long there as pastor, 1915-25. Later pastors have been Russell Sherman, Lawrence Goodmiller, Howard Dickey, Frank Mulligan, Glenn Mulligan and Grant Weaver. This church, with Markle, called David Holl as pastor of the two churches, beginning September, 1951. Some elders who have had charge have been J. W. Norris, J. O. Winger, C. W. Warstler, D. W. Paul, Walter Stinebaugh, and Amsey Snell.

Sunday School superintendents who have served since 1917 are: Chas. Eckman, Lydia Duncan, Howard Z. Jeffrey, Ivan McDaniel, Arthur Priser, Frank Plasterer, C. E. Eckman and Truman Oswalt. Henry Crull is head of the Men's Work and there is an active Aid

**Akron (Co-operative)**

**Bachelor Run**

**Buffalo**

**Cart Creek**

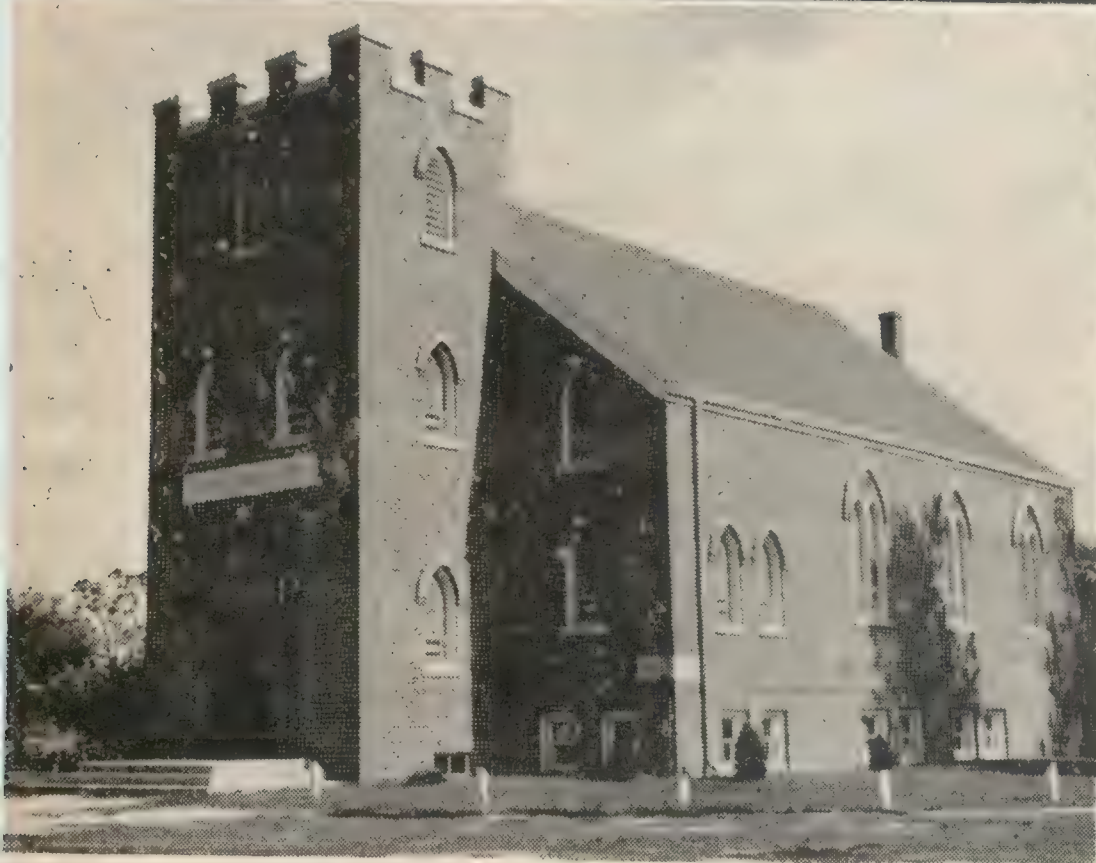
**Andrews**

**Bethel Center**

**Burnettsville**

**Clear Creek**







Society. The church has made many improvements in the interior of the building and have plans for further changes.

### BACHELOR RUN

Up to the year 1838 the history of this church is that of the Deer Creek church (see Lower Deer Creek). In that year the two were divided but the Replogle-Eyman controversy increased, largely, it seems, because Eyman advocated several changes in Brethren doctrine and practices. As a result, a special Annual Meeting was held near Delphi in 1848 to settle the matter. This conference counselled forbearance and loyalty but apparently some were unwilling to yield. At a later meeting held in John Flora's barn, Eyman, George Patton, and others, were disfellowshipped. (They formed the New Dunkers or Church of God, having a dozen or more congregations at present, mostly in White County. Winger, pp. 457-9) Some who followed those disfellowshipped soon returned.

Although called Bachelor Run, the first church building was erected in or near the southeast part of what is Flora today, 1854. Two years later a second house was built five miles southeast of Flora. In 1882 the country and in 1884 the town house were remodeled. The former was remodeled again in 1910 and was destroyed by fire May 27, 1944. On Oct. 19, 1947, a new brick church was dedicated, the address being delivered by Bro. T. A. Shively. This house cost \$42,000 and was free from debt at the time of dedication. Further, the congregation planned to repay a gift of \$1500 by the district not later than February, 1950. This congregation (of less than 200 members) is to be commended for this remarkable achievement.

This congregation has been diminished in membership by the organization of separate congregations and by internal divisions. In 1852 the Howard County members organized a separate congregation; in 1865 the Monticello church was organized; in 1848 the New Dunker movement took some; in 1881 (in 1880 the membership was 350) 126 were disfellowshipped because they went with the Old Order movement (including ministers Abraham Flora, Abraham J. Flora, and Jacob Flora and deacons Christian Eikenberry, John Kingery and Jonas Flora); in 1882 some left for the Progressive movement, locally led by Sanford Seawright and Baltzer Gordon.

A long list of ministers have been called or moved into this congregation: George Patton, 1841; Isaac Eikenberry (ordained 1856, d. 1889, at 84; wife lived to be 98) and Philip Moss, 1842 (moved out 1855); Elder John Hart moved in 1844 (died 1856 at age of 84); Hiel Hamilton moved in 1846 (he must have moved out later because Winger says, p. 30, he moved in, 1883, an aged man, along with Elder



Abner Bowers who died in 1888); about 1846 David Fisher was elected in the northwest part of the territory (Monticello); Joseph Eikenberry and Jacob Flora, 1856; Christian Lesh, 1861 (ordained 1880, d. 1883); Abraham Flora, 1862 (Winger gives, P. 30, another Abraham Flora elected 1879. One must have been Abraham J., referred to in the split of 1881); Sanford Seawright and Baltzer Gordon, 1879; Riley Montgomery, 1883; David Niccum, 1883 (ordained 1887, moved to N. Dak., 1895); John Lesh moved in, 1888, and was later relieved of his ministry at his request; Elder John Shively moved in 1893, died 1895; J. G. Stinebaugh and Riley Flora in 1897 (d. 1940); Elder Solomon Blickenstaff moved in 1898 (he had charge of the church 1896-1901; d. 1903); and A. G. Crosswhite, minister in second degree, moved in from Southern Ohio, 1897, serving as pastor, 1897-1912, and elder, 1901-1912, having been ordained here in 1899, along with Henry Landis (elected 1883).

In 1911 the Flora church became a separate congregation and the country house retained the old name. Some of the ministers who have served in these later years are Boyd Bechtelheimer, 1910-13, (moved to Upper Deer Creek); Elmer Phipps (moved to Plevna); Ira Kreider moved here from Ogan's Creek (around 1917); Benjamin Wray (d. 1931); William L. Angle, elected prior to 1917, ordained 1923, free ministry to 1935, presiding elder 1923-35 and 1949-; Robert Sink, pastor and elder, 1935-39; elder 1939-42; Clarence Sink, pastor, 1940-48; elder, 1942-48; and Herbert Fisher, pastor, 1949-50; Lewis Dearth, 1950-; T. A. Shively is now presiding elder (1951).

Deacons who have been elected or served in this church are as follows: Isaac Eikenberry and John Trent, 1841; Solomon Furry and John Snoeberger, 1856; Christian Eikenberry and Henry Shively, 1873; Abraham Brubaker, Henry Landis, John Kingery, and Jonas Flora, 1879; Richard Callane, 1883; Isaac Myers and Joseph Clingenpeel, 1885; Charles Sink, 1898; Charles Myer, Fred Myer, Clarence Wolfe, Otis Clingenpeel, William Croak, (no dates of election given); Ralph Toler, Laurence Douglas and Willard Allbaugh, all 1947.

A notable event in the history of the Bachelor Run church was the Annual Meeting held here in 1858. Another was the first recorded series of meetings by George W. Cripe, 1868. But, the most notable series was that of I. J. Rosenberger, 1885, lasting seven weeks and ending in 83 baptisms and seven restored to membership. The meeting ended with a great lovefeast occasion. Among the converts were many heads of families, a Methodist and a Progressive preacher. Interestingly enough, this followed close upon the Old Order and Progressive splits.

The church has a flourishing Sunday school with Carl Richardson superintendent (1951). The membership is 170.



**BETHEL CENTER (Hartford City)**

At an early date preaching was done by the Brethren from Mississinewa (Southern District) in the neighborhood of Hartford City. In 1885 Levi Winklebleck and his mother drove to the Mississinewa church and were baptized. He and others became active and a church was organized in 1886 with about forty members. Levi Winklebleck and Samuel Wilson were elected deacons. The next year the former and John Rodgers were called to the ministry. Soon Winklebleck was ordained and given charge of the church.

A house was built two miles west of Hartford City and dedicated by Elder J. F. Spitzer on January 25, 1887. The church grew to 175 members. A new house was built in Hartford City in 1895 and the congregation was presently divided into separate organizations. Bruce Leonard was called to the ministry and preached his first sermon in 1897. Elder I. J. Howard moved in about this time.

In 1908 Levi Winklebleck moved to California and the work soon suffered and almost ceased. Then a revival came and both churches were under the care of the Mission Board of Southern Indiana. In 1916 they were combined and placed under the care of the Mission Board of Middle Indiana. There seems to be no record of any ordinations, installations, or licensing of ministers in this church, now known as Bethel Center. The town house is no longer used.

The following elders have had oversight of the church: J. W. Norris, 1921-22; Vernon Browning, 1923-26, 1938, 1944 and 1945; J. A. Snell, 1926-27; J. A. Miller, 1928-31; D. M. Byerly, 1932-33; William Tinkle, 1934-37; Charles R. Oberlin, 1939-43; Galen Lehman, 1946, Edward Kintner 1947-48. In 1951 Chas. R. Oberlin was elder.

Ministers who have served as pastors: Charles R. Oberlin, 1918-19; Ross Gotschall, 1920-21; Oscar Winger, 1922-23; Fred Gowdy, 1924-26; J. A. Miller, 1927-30; Harold Rarick, 1931-32; William Tinkle, 1933-37; Frank Dillon, 1938-44; Ralph Martin, 1945-46; Gordon Bucher, 1947; James Simmons, 1948. Wilmer M. Lehman is pastor, 1951.

Besides the two deacons mentioned above, the following have served from approximately the time given: Milton Cook, 1888 or 1890; Philip Michael, 1898; Herbert Myers, Alonzo Monroe, and Carl Wentz, 1924; Ansley Reasoner, 1920; Gola Coons and Freedith Michael, 1939; and Ira Lucas and Vaughn Fisher, 1949.

Sunday School superintendents, 1919-1948, were the following: Lydia Waters, 1919-22; Ansley Reasoner, 1923; John Marshall, 1924; Alonzo Monroe, 1925-28 and 1937-38; Carl Wentz, 1927; Lulu Tinkle, 1935-36; Naomi Hubbard, 1939; Mary Myers, 1940-41; Icie Huff-



man, 1942-43; Freedith Michael, 1944-47, James Hubbard, 1948, and Vaughn Fisher, 1951.

Bethel Center reported a membership of 107 in 1949.

### **BUFFALO (Beaver Creek)**

Early in the sixties some Brethren families from Ohio settled in Pulaski County, west of Winamac, including Abraham Miller, a minister. Later Daniel Freeman, a minister from Ohio, moved in and was ordained in 1873 by Brethren John Knisley and David Rupel. During this same year Brethren John Snoeberger, Joseph Amick, Andrew Culp, J. G. Royer, and J. A. Warren, all of Pike Creek (Monticello) church, met with Daniel Freeman and others and organized the Beaver Creek Church. This joined in one congregation the emigrants from Ohio referred to above and an extension of the work from Pike Creek. A house was built in 1889. Elder Freeman did most of the preaching, assisted by Jeremiah Hahn who was handicapped by ill health. About the turn of the century he appealed for help and the District Mission Board took over the church till 1941. For about the first half of this period many ministers filled the appointments, including Joseph Amick, Andrew Culp, J. G. Royer, J. A. Weaver, Isaac Keys, Abraham Rinehart, George Swihart, Allen Oberlin, Otho Winger, Joseph Rife, Aaron Moss, A. J. Crosswhite, Frank Fisher, George and A. R. Bridge, and David Dilling, all nonresident. M. L. Hahn and Oliver Capron were resident ministers who served without compensation. Roy Mishler, Gorman Heeter, and Robert Sink served as non-resident, part-time pastors for terms of one year before 1920.

Under the Mission Board a somewhat regular supply was provided for a few of the first half of the years. Elder George Deardorf served 1913-1915, assisted by his father, Isaac Deardorf (ordained here, 1915); Ellis Wagoner, 1915-17; James Hunter, 1921-22; B. D. Hirt, late in 1922 to 1946, with a short interval in 1927-28, when Millard Wilson, a student from Bethany served. Leo Vanscoyk and outside help filled the appointments till the coming of Richard Moomaw who served from October, 1947, to June, 1948. In October, 1949, John Mishler began as pastor and left in 1951. Chas. R. Oberlin is now pastor.

Elders in charge have included J. G. Stinebaugh, 1916-1922, and James Norris, Charles R. Oberlin, Perry Coblentz, G. B. Heeter, and J. A. Snell, all sent in by the Mission Board and serving from 1923 to 1930. Ray Shank served 1930-35; B. D. Hirt, 1935-36 and 1941-48; and T. A. Shively, 1936-1941, and 1948-.

Among the earlier deacons were S. B. White, Edward White, Milo Grafton, William Bowsher, and Rudolph Keever (moved in from Monticello, 1915). Deacons elected 1920 to 1943 are as follows: Rich-



ard Bramble and Harry Kepp, 1920; John Marion, Joe Hirt, William Marion, and Merle Rotruck, all 1943. Clarence Gibbs moved in from Kewanna, 1932.

For many years Brother S. B. White drove to Winamac or Monticello to meet ministers and he entertained them in his home. This required sixty or more miles of driving each weekend. This was a notable service by this good layman.

Superintendents of the Sunday School, 1915-1948 included Rudolph Keever, Harry White, Harry Kepp, Leo Vanscoyk, Richard Bramble, Lonnie Monbeck, Morris Hefner, John Marion, Grace Morris, Loren Ezra, Joe Hirt, Oris Vanscoyk, Howard Ezra and Loren Ezra, 1949-.

Of the present membership in 1949, only three antedate the pastorate of Bro. B. D. Hirt. These are Cora M. Hahn (a member since 1891) and Leo and Leona Vanscoyk.

Due to the need of a better building and a better location, the church bought the former Presbyterian church building in Buffalo and the congregation was moved there in 1930. Some members were lost, being opposed to the move. In 1932 the district approved the change of name from Beaver Creek to Buffalo. The membership doubled within a few years and in 1942 the church was remodeled and rededicated, Bro. Charles R. Oberlin bringing the message. One year later (Sept. 19, 1943) in an anniversary meeting, the last of the debt was paid. Just before the remodeling began, the church took full responsibility for its own support (1941) and has continued so since. The present membership is some under 100.

### **BURNETTSVILLE (Burnetts Creek)**

The early history of this congregation is that of the Monticello church, of which it was a part till 1898. A house had been built in Burnettsville in 1890. Two leading pioneer families here were those of Daniel Mertz and Joseph Reiff. They and their sons, both named Milton, have had a large part in the on going of this church. The minister with the longest active connection with the church was Gorman Heeter, pastor and elder, 1900-1925.

Others who served as pastors were M. M. Sherrick, 1897-98; B. F. Petry, 1926-1934 (died, Jan. 1934); Robert Tulley, 1934-36; Ernest Shively, 1937-38; E. S. Petry, 1939-41; Paul Hersch, 1941-42; Paul Thompson, 1942-44; B. D. Hirt, 1944-46 (served Buffalo also). Between 1947 and 1949 Rufus McDaniel, Kenneth Yingst, William Gauntz have served. Robert Sebert and wife, Dorothea, both licensed ministers and living in Logansport, served to 1951. The present pastor is Edward Lyons.

Elders in charge have been David Dilling, 1898-1900; Gorman



Heeter, 1900-25; B. F. Petry, 1926-34; Homer Hanna, 1935-39; E. S. Petry, 1939-41; T. A. Shively 1941-47; J. J. Johnson, 1948-. In 1911 Ora DeLauter was installed as a minister and Homer Hanna in 1921. In 1909 John Maurer was ordained elder and Homer Hanna in 1934.

Deacons who have served: Milton K. Reiff, 1898; Joseph Hufford, 1898; Albert Tobias, 1909; Milton C. Mertz, 1911; Eli Blickenstaff, 1911; Elmer Musselman, Charles Showalter, Paul Tobias, and Arnold Hanna, all 1923; Wilbur Holsinger and Ralph Brechbiel, 1941. Edward Kendall, a deacon, lived in the church a number of years. The present membership is just under 100.

The present house, erected in 1890, was remodeled in 1925 and Otho Winger delivered the address at the rededication, July 26. In 1948 Elder John H. Maurer was living at the age of 90 and M. K. Reiff, deacon, at 88. Sister Ella Shesler, 83, completed the trio of oldest members.

Among the superintendents of the Sunday School have been the following: Milton K. Reiff, D. A. Mertz, Bessie Mertz, George Bridge, Marian Hanna, Milton Mertz, Eli Blickenstaff, Homer Hanna, Russell Reiff, Minnie Reiff, Sadie Showalter, John Bowman, Wilbur Holsinger, E. S. Petry, Jerry Holsinger, and Galen Davidson.

### **CART CREEK**

Cart Creek was organized from the Somerset church in 1914. From an early date several families lived in this neighborhood, about seven miles southeast from the Somerset house. Series of meetings were held in the Cart Creek school house, resulting in the adding of several new members. A flourishing Sunday School was organized in 1887, with John M. Winger and John Strausburg as leaders.

In 1893 the Cart Creek church house was erected on the farm of Joseph Winger, Sr., not a member but a warm supporter of the project. This is three miles north of Sweetser. It so happened that the funeral of Joseph Winger, Sr., was the first to be preached in the new house. Elder J. F. Spitzer officiated, as he had also done at the dedicatory service.

While still a part of the Somerset congregation, John Strausburg, Martin Miller, Otho Winger, W. L. Hatcher, Roger Winger and William Tinkle lived near and were regular preachers at the Cart Creek house. After the organization of the separate congregations, 1914, Elder George Deardorf, assisted by his father, Elder Isaac Deardorf, was pastor for two years. Other ministers who have had a part in the ministerial work have been Joseph Rife, Roger Winger, Arthur Mote, John Eberly, Obed Rife, Hugh Miller, Chester Baird, Arthur Shull, J. O. Winger, and Ralph Hoffman.



The following elders have had charge of this church: E. S. Brubaker, 1914-15 and 1918; John Strausburg, 1916; George Deardorf, 1917; Obed Rife, 1919-30 and 1936-37; J. O. Winger, 1931; J. W. Norris, 1932-35; John Frantz, 1938-45; Ralph Hoffman, 1945-. Three Wingers were ordained in this church; Otho, Oscar, and Roger. One missionary, Mabel Winger Moomaw, was raised here.

Deacons who have served are: Joseph Kendall, Joseph P. Winger, Oscar Haynes, Henry Haynes, M. D. Winger, Daniel Winger, Cary Blue, and Jesse Winger.

Sunday School superintendents have included the following: Amanda Haynes, Emma Winger, Alva Winger, Jesse Winger, Lewis Winger, Ruth Winger, Lavonne Kendall, and Esther Winger.

This little church, now numbering only 36, will long be remembered as the home of Otho Winger, the greatest leader of the Brethren in Indiana and one of the state's greatest citizens. He was called to the ministry in 1897 and preached his first sermon at Cart Creek.

### **CLEAR CREEK**

About 1850 members from Virginia and Ohio began to settle north of Huntington. Elder David Shoemaker moved here from Columbiana County, Ohio, and preached for the members once a month, holding meetings in the homes. After his death, 1855, Ira Calvert served as minister and elder for several years. Joseph and Abraham Leedy, of Andrews, also did some preaching here. Two other earlier preachers were a Bro. Petrie and David Bear. Jacob Metzger and David Kreider in turn had charge of the church. Early deacons were Abram Mishler, John Mishler, Adam Shock, and Allen Haynes.

About the time of the calling to the ministry of J. C. Murray, 1878, the church began to grow. A Sunday School was organized and Bro. Murray was superintendent. For about fifteen years this Sunday School operated six months of the year, due to travel conditions in the winter. In 1879 Jesse Calvert held a series of meetings in which forty-four came into the church. The same year Dorsey Hodgden moved in, was ordained the following year, and two years later was made elder of the church, a position he held for thirty years, moving to Dayton, Ohio, in 1912. Elders since then have been I. B. Wike, 1913-14 and 1919-24; George L. Studebaker, 1915-16; George Deardorf, 6 mo., 1916; L. U. Kreider, 1916-17; D. B. Garber, 3 mo., 1917; V. F. Schwalm, 1917-19; Hugh Miller, 1924-25; T. G. Weaver, 1925-26; Elmer Gilbert, 1926-45; Galen T. Lehman, 1945-50; J. A. Snell, 1950-51.

With the exception of D. B. Garber, elder for three months in 1917, the elders listed above also served as pastors, 1882-1945. Ernest Jehnsen served as pastor, 1945-46, and Roy J. Gilmer has served since that time. During the ministry of Dorsey Hodgden the church called



to the ministry J. H. Ahner, J. H. Christian, and D. W. Shock. In 1932 the church licensed J. D. Groff and Paul Weddle.

Later deacons have included John Neff, John Miller, Frank France, H. O. Colclessor, Joseph Weddle and Howard Haines, all elected before 1917. Two later deacons called were Marshall Miller and O. R. Reichley.

About 1870 a brick church was built, four miles north and one mile east of Huntington, Abram Detrick, of Ohio, giving the dedicatory sermon. In 1916 this building was destroyed by a storm and a new one, on Road 9, north of Huntington, was dedicated in 1918. This church had a Christian Workers meeting as early as 1904. This church is the home of Laura Shock, for a number of years a missionary in China. The present membership is 72. The Ladies Aid have started a fund for the purchase of a parsonage (1951).

### EEL RIVER

The history of Eel River from 1838 to 1852 has been given in the account of the Manchester church.

The first presiding elder, after Manchester was separated in 1852, was David Ulrey who had charge till his death in March, 1866. Jacob Metzger and Jacob Cripe had joint oversight till the death of the latter in 1875. Jacob Metzger continued in charge till 1881, when he led a faction into the Old Order church. Within a few months Samuel Leckrone was ordained and had charge of the church till the territory was divided into three parts, 1913.

In its history of nearly a century, the Eel River church has had a large number of ministers living within its territory. Space will permit only a listing of these men. George W. Sala lived here 1854 to 1857; Joseph Hardman from 1858 to 1867; Jacob Landis from 1866 to his death, 1874; Jacob Frantz, elected 1879, but went with Old Orders, 1881; Gabriel Ulrey, elected 1879, advanced 1881, ordained 1907, and died 1914; W. F. Neal, moved in, 1880, advanced, 1881, ordained, 1907, moved out, 1914 (died 1916); Emanuel Leckrone moved in before 1907, ordained that year, in West Eel River, 1913; Leander Pottenger, moved in, 1884, joined Progressives, 1909; George Mishler, elected 1892 and moved out 1898; J. D. Mishler, elected 1899 and moved out 1905; N. W. Butterbaugh, elected 1907, died 1910; T. D. Butterbaugh, elected 1907 in West Eel River, 1913; Amos Freed, elected 1911, advanced 1913, ordained 1915, and served till his death, 1938; Roy Mishler, elected 1911, in Plunge Creek, 1913; Abram Miller, moved in 1918, out 1923; George W. Deaton, elected, 1915, advanced 1916, ordained 1919, present elder, 1949; William Smith, licensed 1936. Lee R. Smith served in the ministry 1933 to 1942.

Following Samuel Leckrone's long eldership, 1881-1913, the pre-



siding elders have been as follows: George Swihart, 1913-15; I. B. Book, 1916-17; Amos Freed, 1918-24; and George W. Deaton, 1925-1949.

The following served as deacons (with date of installation if known): John Ulrey, Gabriel Ulrey (1879), George Funk, Joseph Ulrey, Stephen Ulrey, Abe Rowland, Emmanuel Brumbaugh, Daniel Brumbaugh, Silvanus Funk, Martin Hay, Adam Tully, Lewis Mishler, Samuel Haynes, Aaron Ulrey, C. C. Arnold, Fred Himes, Joel Brubaker, Parvin Wirth, Amos Freed, Levi Eikenberry, George Beigh, Alpheus Ulrey (1909), Charles Arnold (1909), Q. L. Brower (1909), George Leckrone (1909), Henry Mishler, David Wolfe, Samuel Perry, John W. Metzger (1913), Herman Leckrone (1913), Egbert Burger (1923), Howard Metzger (1923), Virgil Pyle (1945), Ralph Spangle (1945), Lester Metzger (1945), and Wilbur Pyle (1945). Gabriel Ulrey was elected deacon in October, 1879 and to the ministry in November of the same year.

Although the Old Order movement drew many members away from this church, its numbers continued to grow. Two Sunday Schools were started; one at the east house (Plunge Creek) in 1890 and the other at the larger central house (on site of present Eel River) in 1893, the leaders being Gabriel Ulrey and Emmanuel Leckrone. The District Meeting has been held here many times, twice in succession when no other church extended an invitation for the second year.

Elder Gabriel Ulrey, son of pioneer parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Ulrey, served the church in almost every possible capacity and over many years. Samuel Leckrone also served this church over an unusually long period having the oversight of the congregation for thirty-two years (he was a minister here from 1876 to his death, 1924).

After the division of the territory in 1852 houses were built at three locations. About 1860 a frame building was erected on the present site of Eel River. This was replaced in 1897 by the present brick church. Joseph Ulrey, Sr., had donated three acres of land for the church site and adjoining cemetery. He was janitor of the church for over thirty years. Another house was built three and one half miles east and a half mile south, known as Plunge Creek Chapel. This became a separate congregation in 1913. Another house was built three and one half miles west of Eel River (two miles east of Silver Lake) and came to be known as West Eel River when it was made a

**Eel River**

**Hickory Grove**

**Liberty Mills**

**Loon Creek**

**Flora**

**Huntington**

**Logansport**

**Lower Deer Creek**







separate congregation in 1913. This left only a narrow central strip three or four miles wide for the old mother church.

At a much earlier date, 1870, the Spring Creek territory had been organized into a separate church and a house built the following year.

The church seems to have used the free ministry arrangement till 1942, when J. Benton Rhoades, now a missionary in Ecuador, became pastor for a year. David Fouts served during the summer of 1943. He was followed by Robert Knechel who served nearly three years. July 1, 1946, the present pastor, Earl Hostetter, took up his duties. The church has a unique arrangement for their pastor. They own an 80 acre farm upon which the pastor resides but it is farmed by the men of the church under the management of the church trustees. During the second World War fifteen young men went from this church, ten into civilian public service and five into the military service. On September 7, 1947, the church observed its fiftieth anniversary of worship in the present house. In 1950 the church house was greatly improved and a farm of 80 acres one mile east of the church was purchased. The pastor lives on the farm. The Men's Work farm the fields, to the profit of various church funds.

The following have served as superintendent of the Sunday School since 1913: Amos Freed, 1913; Herman Leckrone, 1914, 1916-18; George W. Deaton, 1915; Mervin Freed, 1919-20; Laura Miller, 1921-22; Emery Montel, 1923; Daniel T. Miller, 1924-28, 1934-37; Charles Albert, 1929; Granville Deaton, 1930, 38-40, and 1946-48; Virgil Pyle, 1931-33; Maurice Metzger, 1941-42; and Lester Metzger, 1943-45.

The membership is now just over two hundred.

## FLORA

The history of the Flora church is that of the old Deer Creek (to 1838) and then the Bachelor Run churches to 1911, when it became a separate congregation. Ministers, resident in 1916, were Henry Landis, William Burns (moved away, returned, 1936), and Riley Montgomery. Walter Replogle was installed in 1915 and Wayne Eikenberry in 1930 (licensed 1927-8-9). Ministers Boyd Bechtelheimer (1940), O. A. Myer (1946) and C. A. Workman (1918) moved into the church and are assisting as lay ministers.

The Flora Church has had the following who have served as both pastor and elder: A. G. Crosswhite, 1911-12; I. C. Snavely, 1913-17; I. R. Beery (pastor only), 1917-22; H. C. Early, 1922-24; A. P. Musselman, 1924-30; Ray O. Shank, 1930-35; D. W. Shock, 1935-37; Ray Zook, 1937-47; W. Harlan Smith, 1947-1951. J. G. Stinebaugh served a short time as elder in 1912-13 and again 1919-23; Henry Landis a short time, 1912-13.



Dwight Smith, son of W. Harlan Smith, was licensed July 30, 1948, while a student at Manchester College.

Earlier deacons of the church were: Joseph Clingenpeel, Richard Callane, David Brower, David Eikenberry, Martin Huff, William Eikenberry (moved away, returned 1935, d. 1940), William Metzger, Moses Wagoner, Jacob Kingery (1914), Elmer Metzger, Irvin Brim (1915), William Eckerle (1915), Samuel Welty (1915), Leslie Hausenfluck (moved away, returned, 1940), and Jerome Shigley (1914). Charles Stouse and Noah Flora were elected in 1937; Carl Johnson, David Wise, and Charles Jordan in 1945; Otis Clingenpeel (1920), Fred Myer (1940) and Ora Spitler (1942) were received by letter.

Superintendents of the Sunday school have included Jerome Shigley, E. C. Metzger, Irvin Brim, Charles Stouse, Glenn Slabaugh, Walter Moss, Ernest Sink, and Leslie Hausenfluck.

In 1938 the church held a centennial celebration (the 100th anniversary of the Bachelor Run church). In 1941 art glass windows for the whole church were dedicated. An extensive remodeling program, estimated at \$20,000, was begun. In 1919 the Women's Society bought a property back of the church which has been used as a parsonage. The present membership is 347.

### HICKORY GROVE

The first church of the Brethren in this part of Indiana was Walnut Level, near Petroleum, where the Hickory Grove families held their membership. This included the families of Robert Blankenbaker (he and wife baptized in Mississinewa Church, 1870), Adam Weimer, John Smith, Becky Strait Fox, Ben Stover, James Stover, James Ullum, Frank Higgins, and Wilson Hutchinson.

The last mentioned brother arranged services in the Sugar Grove schoolhouse. Samuel Neher, George W. Studebaker, Wilson Hutchinson, Christian Davis, Moses Cruea, and Joseph Spitzer were early preachers here. The last named minister preached the dedication sermon for the new church, 1886, the congregation having been separated from Walnut Level in 1882 and called Camden. This house is three miles south of Pennville. Fred Hummer was called to the ministry the next year and ordained to the eldership a few years later. There seems to have been a period of troubles and decline but in the early years of this century the church began to take on new life. A revival was held in 1907 by Bro. D. M. Byerly with D. A. Hummer, wife, and daughter (Opal) coming into the church. Bro. Hummer was called to the ministry that same year, a Sunday school was organized and Bro. Byerly moved into the congregation for a year. Between this and 1912 the membership grew from 45 to over 80. In 1914 the name was changed



to Hickory Grove (the nearby town had been changed from Camden to Pennville.)

Considerable improvement, including a basement, was made on the church in 1913 and the congregation entertained the District Meeting in the fall. In 1929 the church was badly wrecked by a storm, June 30. It was repaired and rededicated in October with J. A. Snell bringing the message. The church was extensively remodeled again in 1943-4. On July 23, 1944, a rededicatory service was held with Bro. B. D. Hirt delivering the dedication sermon. The remodeling was all paid at this time.

Some of the men, besides those already mentioned, who served in the ministry here are: Ross Hardman, elder two years, 1918; J. W. Rogers, elder four years, 1920; J. S. Zigler, pastor, 1925-29; J. A. Snell, elder since 1929; Dale Brubaker, summer pastor, 1943, 1944; Myron Horst, summer pastor, 1947; Ivan Fry, pastor one year, 1947-8; Frank Mulligan, pastor, 1948-1950. Since 1950 Wilmer M. Lehman has served this church as pastor, jointly with Bethel Center.

A number of ministers have served the church, at times coming once a month: Aaron Moss, J. S. Alldredge, I. B. Wike, Ross Gutschall, Albert Harshbarger, and L. S. Shively. The only ordination to eldership for many years was that of D. A. Hummer in 1911.

Deacons, and dates of installation, if known are as follows: F. W. Winget and Harry Simpson, 1909; Johnson Miller and John Taylor, 1911; R. S. Hummer and George Pentacost, 1915; Edgar Hummer, Lloyd Stultz, 1922; Cecil Fox, 1923 (elected, 1922); Sylvan Studebaker, 1940. All but brethren Simpson, Miller, Stultz, and Pentacost were serving in 1949.

The membership in 1916 was 53; in 1949, it was 77.

## HUNTINGTON

In 1891 a little group of Brethren were residing in Huntington, without access to services and in need of a church home. Among them were Mrs. William John, wife of Squire John, Mrs. A. C. (Cora) Emley, Mr. and Mrs. Elias Rittenhouse, and Mrs. Dan Kitch, affectionately known as Nancy, Grandmother Kitch or as "Mother" of the little church group. Representatives of the Markle, Salamonie, Huntington Rural, and Clear Creek churches met and decided to hold services once a month in the old courthouse. In 1893 Elder Noah Fisher held a meeting which resulted in several additions and new enthusiasm. A Sunday School was organized. Although a part of the Clear Creek congregation, the four churches named above agreed to join in building a house in Huntington. They appointed members on a large building committee and gave a contract for the building to Isaac Brumbaugh, Sr., and David Hoover. After disposing of another lot, they



built on the corner of Washington and Guilford streets, 1894, at a cost of \$8,000. The lot included a house, north of the church, which was used for some years as a parsonage but in 1946 it was dedicated as a parish house.

In 1899 the city church became a congregation separate from Clear Creek. From 1901 to 1906 it was partially supported by the District Mission Board, and largely without a resident pastor. In these years of low ebb things were kept going largely through efforts of the Sunday school leaders, such as Jonathan Sprinkle, Isaac Brumbaugh, Cora Emley and Effie Tuttle. In 1905 David Neher, a minister, moved in from Michigan and helped faithfully. Elder Isaac B. Wike was identified with the church for many years.

Between 1928 and 1931 the present parsonage, east of the church was purchased. The church has been remodeled several times—1909, 1914 and 1928-9. Except for stained glass windows, the exterior appearance of the church has not been changed.

This church has been served by many elders, pastors and other ministers. The following is a list of the elders who have had charge of the work with the date of the beginning of their period of service indicated: Dorsey Hodgden, 1894; Aaron Moss, 1900; A. G. Crosswhite, 1901; G. B. Heeter, 1903; J. H. Wright, 1906; Geo. L. Studebaker, 1909; J. D. Mishler, 1911; C. C. Kindy, 1913; Frank Fisher, 1915; D. B. Garber, 1916; Ira Long, 1917; C. C. Kindy, 1919; C. W. Warstler, 1925; R. A. Shank, 1928; Ezra Flory, 1928; Edward Kintner, 1931; John Eberly, 1937; W. C. Stinebaugh, 1941; Galen T. Lehman, 1942-50, H. L. Hartsough, 1950-. In 1951 elders John Eberly and Frank Mulligan were living in this church.

The pastors, and beginning dates of their pastorates are as follows: Noah Fisher, 1894; Gorman Heeter, 1897; J. H. Wright 1898-1900 and 1906-1909; Aaron Moss, 1900-1901; Walter J. Barnhart, 1904; George L. Studebaker, 1909; J. D. Mishler, 1910; Grover Wine, 1911; C. C. Kindy, 1913; I. B. Wike, 1916; H. S. Randolph, 1917; Galen B. Royer, 1918; C. C. Kindy, 1919; C. W. Warstler, 1925; Ezra Flory, 1928; DeWitt Miller, 1931; Howard Keim, 1934; Galen T. Lehman, 1942-50; E. R. Fisher, 1950-.

This church licensed Dewey Cave to the ministry (1926); Roger Shively (1936), George Cussen (1936), Bruce Gerdes (1941) and William Eberly (1944). Oscar Neher (1907), Minor Gressley (1917), Herbert Dilling (1920), and Virgil Kindy (1925) were elected and installed as ministers. Only one ordination of elders is on record: that of DeWitt Miller, 1932.

Deacons, with dates of installation, are as follows: Isaac Brumbaugh, 1904; J. B. Bailey, 1910; Albert Gressley, 1913; Oren Wike, 1915; A. C. Emley, 1920; Noah Endsley, 1920; Raymond Holmes,



1920; Aurelius Rittenhouse, 1920; Everett Hoon, 1920; Miner Wine, 1920; George Kline, 1941; Milton Ulrich, 1941-d. 1951) and Raymond Heaston, 1941; Charles Alexander, Wayne Endsley, and Harvey Smith, 1950.

The list of superintendents of the Sunday school is rather short due to the long tenure of brethren Weybright, Hoon, and Gerdes. They are as follows: Jonathan Sprinkle, 1893; Isaac Brumbaugh, 1900; David Neher, 1906; John B. Bailey, 1907-9 and 1910-12; Cora Emley, 1909; W. H. Weybright, 1912-1928; E. E. Hoon, 1929-1938; Walter Gressley, 1939; Bruce Gerdes, 1940-.

John Eberly, an elder resident in this church, spent several years in Brethren Service work in Italy.

From a membership of 120 in 1917 the number has grown to just over 400, making this one of the larger congregations of the district.

### **LIBERTY MILLS (Plunge Creek)**

Plunge Creek was for a number of years the east house of the Eel River congregation. Meetings were first held in a school house, then a church was erected. Following the separate organization in 1913, the house was remodeled and enlarged. Here this congregation of over one hundred members worshipped till April 12, 1927, when the house was destroyed by fire. For a while they met in the Haines schoolhouse but purchased the Methodist house in Liberty Mills later in 1927, which has been their church home ever since. In 1944 extensive improvements were made and a rededication service was conducted by the pastor, A. F. Morris, Feb, 27, 1944. In 1929 the name of the congregation was changed to Liberty Mills.

Roy Mishler was their first resident minister, 1913 and J. H. Wright elder in charge. Moyne Landis was installed into the ministry in 1914 here and served for a few years as pastor, Mishler having moved to Roann in the meantime. Later pastors have been: D. R. Murray, 1919-21; John Smeltzer, 1921-26; J. O. Winger, 1927-33; A. R. Eikenberry, 1934-38; John Long, 1938-40; Roger Shively, 1940-42; A. F. Morris, 1942-49; Howard Kreider, 1949-.

Elders in charge have been: J. H. Wright, 1913-18; I. B. Book, 1919-25; A. R. Eikenberry, 1926-33; J. O. Winger, 1933-38; T. G. Weaver, 1938-43; A. F. Morris, 1943-46; E. H. Gilbert, 1946-d. 1949; Leonard Custer, 1949-.

The earlier deacons included Adam Tully, John Harp, John Miller, Albert F. Miller and Ford Landis. Later, the following were elected: Clarence Metzger, 1934; Glenn Heeter, 1938; Leonard Snively, 1938; Harry Albright, 1945; Virgil Sites, 1945.

Several young ministers have been called: Jacob E. S. Smith, licensed, 1929, installed, 1934; Vernon Johnson, licensed 1939, in-



stalled, 1942; Richard Knarr, licensed, 1948; Arden Morris, 1949. Paul Leckron was ordained as a minister since 1948. (1951)

The following have served as superintendents of the Sunday school: John Miller, 1917-18, 1922, 1924, and 1928; George Frantz, 1919-20; Rudy Michaels, 1921; Edward Ayers, 1923; Roy Hardman, 1925-26; Fay Arnold, 1927; Charles Gilbert, 1929; Willard Roberts, 1930-31; Millard Dickey, 1932-35; Roy Gump, 1936-37; Don Landis, 1938-40; Glen Grossnickle, 1941; Ralph Akers, 1942-44; Robert Taylor, 1944-46; Richard Knarr, 1946-48; Lester Metzger, 1948-.

This church has shown a fine growth and interest. Since 1917 they have nearly doubled the membership, the figure standing now at 200.

### LOGANSPORT

Our church in this city had its active beginning with the coming of Bro. Allen A. Oberlin and family in 1895. They found five sisters here: Sister Winklebeck, mother of Levi Winklebeck (preacher at Bethel Center, 1887-1908), Sister Lang, widow of the late Judge Lang, and Sister Keesling, mother of the editor of the *Logansport Journal*, and Sisters Modery and Eller. Bro. Oberlin in the one year he was here at this time, opened a Sunday school, preached in Logansport and in Adamsboro, six miles east of the city. The latter point had been organized as a separate church from the western part of the Mexico church territory but was now very weak. W. L. Hatcher labored here for a while.

With the departure of the Oberlins for the East, the preaching lapsed in Logansport till 1900. Then A. G. Crosswhite held a series of meetings and baptized seven. The Mission Board of the district took charge and supported a regular preaching program. A very successful Sunday school was led by Isaac Moss, deacon, and L. P. Kurtz, later a deacon. In 1906 the Logansport church was organized with thirty-six members and the Adamsboro church was considered a part of it till it closed in 1913.

A lot of local mission work was done by Sisters Josephine Hanna and Dossie Webb. Preaching was done by I. B. Wike, Jacob H. Ahner, of Fort Wayne, and others. Then, in 1907, the Oberlins moved back and gave a new impetus to the work. Charles R. Oberlin, a son, was elected to the ministry in 1907 and immediately assisted the father in the work. They continued till the Mission Board placed J. V. Felthouse there for two years, 1908-10. Then the work came under the care of the Oberlins again. Charles R. was ordained in 1912 and the father died in 1916. He had been a faithful minister for twenty-four years and may be considered the father of the Logansport church. The son continued in the work for several years after the father's death and



did a great deal of successful evangelistic work in other churches. In 1912, B. D. Hirt, son-in-law of Allen Oberlin, was called to the ministry and in 1914 another son-in-law, James Hunter, was called.

From 1916 to 1918 funds were raised here and in the District to build the present church house at East Market and 17th, 1919. The church bought a parsonage but found it too small and have secured a larger one which is now occupied by the pastor, Bro. Roy S. Richey since December, 1948. A fund is being raised to enlarge and remodel the church.

The work has been hard here because of the considerable moving in and out on the part of the membership and other causes. Bro. W. C. Stinebaugh had a very helpful period as pastor from 1929 to 1934. Another unusually stimulating period was the pastorate of Lyle C. Albright. On Palm Sunday, 1945, he announced they would leave and go as missionaries to Africa. The church was challenged and thrilled. They gave liberally to certain equipment the Albrights would need on the field. Even the city became interested in the project. The church now has a membership of 178. In 1929 the church began a greater assumption of responsibility financially and by 1943 the church assumed full responsibility for all their support and administration.

Since 1922 the elders in charge have been: Ira Kreider, 1922-25; Harley Fisher, 1926; Perry Coblentz, 1927-30; Ray O. Shank, 1931-34; Charles R. Oberlin, 1934-36; T. A. Shively, 1936-39; Edward Kintner, 1940-41; Ray Zook, 1942-46; T. A. Shively, 1946-.

Pastors who have served since 1922: L. T. Holsinger, 1922-25; J. O. Winger, 1926; Chesley H. Hindgardner, 1927; Homer A. Schrock, 1927-29; S. L. Cover, summer, 1929; Walter Stinebaugh, 1929-34; Robert H. Miller, summer, 1934; J. J. Johnson, 1934- his death, May 1939; David Fouts, 1940-42; Lyle C. Albright, 1943-46; and Roy S. Richey, since 1946.

Lyle C. Albright was ordained to the eldership in 1946. Robert and Dorothea Sebert were both licensed to preach in 1946 and have been working in the Burnettsville church since the fall of 1948. Only one deacon has been chosen in recent years, Victor Kitchel, in 1946. Earlier deacons were Isaac Moss, Thomas Duddleston, and E. E. Eikenberry.

The following have served as superintendents of the Sunday school: David M. Flory, 1923-25; Lewis Garver, 1926; John Duddleston, 1927; Ora Yoder, 1928-30; Marion Mullins (no date given); Earl Hankins, 1931; John Mummert, 1931-33; Jesse Klepinger, 1934-39, 1942, 1943-45; Victor Kitchel, 1940-41, 1946-; Wilbur Stump, 1943 (till he entered war service); Jerry Holsinger, 1943.

One of the striking features of this church is the rather large role women leaders have played in the work of the church.



### LOON CREEK

Loon Creek was a part of Salamonie prior to its organization as a separate church, 1912. The church house had been built in 1884-5, five miles south east of Huntington, on Road 5, on ground donated by Bro. Aaron Bowman, after preaching had been held in homes and a school house since 1850. Bro. Isaac Brumbaugh directed the building of the church. When the school house did not hold the crowd and the weather was favorable they met in an adjoining grove. The church started in 1912 with about a hundred members. For a short time H. B. Wike was elder in charge but soon D. W. Paul was ordained (1913 or 1914) and had charge of the church till 1946, over thirty years. His was a long, faithful, and efficient service. He was a public school teacher for a number of years. He passed away in 1948 at 85. Galen T. Lehman succeeded him as elder. In 1950 Garland Borden was ordained and is now elder in charge. In 1925 Roy B. Teach was ordained.

The present church house was remodeled in 1917-18. A new parsonage was built and dedicated, 1948. In 1935 the church observed the fiftieth anniversary of the dedication of the house in 1885, the address being given by Pres. Otho Winger.

When the division of territory was made in 1912, D. W. Paul and Noah Shideler, ministers, and Jacob Heaston, Jacob H. Shideler, and Charles Heaston, deacons, were in Loon Creek. On the day of the organization of the new congregation Elmer Shultz, Ward Zook and Henry Freidley were elected deacons. Jacob H. Shideler, Anderson Potts, and Joseph Hoover were the first trustees.

The first regular pastor was Bro. B. D. Hirt who came in 1918. He was followed by Harley Townsend, 1923; Roy B. Teach, 1924; L. D. Young, 1927; George Beery (part-time), 1929; Roy B. Teach, 1930; John Eberly, 1937; Roy Gilmer, 1941, ordained to eldership, 1943; Albert L. Whitmore, 1946; Garland B. Borden, 1946-. In 1922 Carl Zook was elected to the ministry.

Deacons who were elected after 1912 included Charles Heaston, Joseph Hoover, and John Bowman, 1921; Glen Drabenstot, 1946; E. H. Paul, Roscoe Cobbs, Guy Lahr, and Mark Paul, 1947.

Superintendents of the Sunday school since 1912 have been: Samuel Funderburg, 1912-14, 1918-20; Elmer Shultz, 1914-18; 1928-33; Everett Paul, 1920-25; Merritt Hoover, 1925-28, 1947-; Ora Kitt, 1933-41; Allen Kitt, 1941-1951.

This church has a narrow strip of territory between other congregations but has made much progress. From about 100 members in 1912 the congregation has grown to 178.



**LOWER DEER CREEK**

The settlement of Brethren on Deer Creek, 1828, (where Camden now stands), proved to be the beginning of several congregations—Bachelor Run, Flora, both Deer Creek churches, and several others. The original settlers seem to have been Samuel Wise, deacon, and Peter Eyman, second-degree minister. They came only four years after the first settlers of Carroll County. In 1829, Peter Replogle, of Deer Creek Swamps, was chosen minister and likely the church was organized in 1830 and Peter Eyman was ordained elder. The church was called Deer Creek.

In 1834 Elder John Myer (d. 1863) moved on Bachelor Run, near the present site of Flora. John Flora was elected deacon the same year. Soon a sharp division occurred between the two Peters—Eyman and Replogle—and the congregation was divided in 1838, with Eyman and Myer on the Bachelor Run side and Replogle on the Deer Creek side of a rather irregular line of division. (See Bachelor Run history for further account)

There seems to be little information available on the early years of the Deer Creek church. The present house, now remodeled, was built in 1852. Four of the early ministers went with the Old Order Brethren, 1881: Henry Metzger, David Wise, Henry Gish, and John D. Mussleman. John Shively moved in, 1880, and removed to Flora, 1893; Samuel Bechtelheimer moved in 1885, was ordained and served till he died in 1893; Samuel Ulrey served 1883 to 1887; John Lesh, 1882 to 1888; Benjamin Wray, 1896 to 1908, having been ordained in this church and serving as its elder several years. James Kennedy was elected 1888 and served till his death, 1912. About 1919 John Welles was installed into the ministry, first and second degrees.

Elder J. G. Stinebaugh, elected at Flora, moved into the congregation in 1903 and was ordained in 1904 by Elders W. S. Toney and Jacob Cripe. He served as pastor, 1903-1919, except two years spent at Beaverdam, and as elder, 1907-1923.

Other elders who have served in recent years are: Roy Mishler, 1923 (killed Nov., 1923); J. K. Eikenberry, 1924; Wm. Angle, 1925-6 and 1935-42; Clarence Sink, 1942-49, and W. Harlan Smith, 1950-. Five pastors have served as follows: J. G. Stinebaugh, 1903-19; Roy Mishler, 1923; L. L. Paul, 1925-34; Clarence Sink, 1936-49; Herbert Fisher, 1949-50; Lewis Deardorff, 1950-. Clarence Sink was ordained 1942.

Deacons were elected as follows: John Musselman, John Ulrey, David Replogle, James Gish, Reuben Young, Allen Etter, Elias Cripe, John Snoeberger, David Blickenstaff, 1886, Thomas Duddleston, 1886, Martin Hoff, 1898, Charles Sink, 1898, John Webster, 1904, Moses Wagoner, 1905, William Angle, 1905, Ora Spitler, 1909, Sam Snoe-



berger, 1911, Nelson Dilling, 1915, John Duddleston, 1915, William Musselman, 1921, Ora Landis, 1921, Owen Cripe, 1924, Chester Peterson (transferred from Delphi church), Ralph Replogle, 1946, Paul Oyler, 1946, Ollie Wertz, 1946, and Ralph Peterson, 1946.

This congregation lost members on several occasions: the new Dunker movement, 1848; the organization of the Upper Deer Creek Church, 1854; and the Old Order movement, 1881. The first Sunday School conducted by the Brethren was in the Nebo house, two miles west of Camden, 1886, with John Alma as Superintendent, followed by John Snoeberger, Thomas Duddleston, and others. The present superintendent (1951) is Ira Shafer.

From 1946 to 1949 the church was completely remodeled and modernized, at a cost of \$10,000. On January 2, 1949 Elder T. A. Shively delivered the address at a re-dedicatory service. The membership is 168 in 1949.

### MANCHESTER

A large area, with North Manchester approximately in the center, was originally called the Eel River Church. From it have come subdivisions, including Manchester, Eel River, West Manchester, West Eel River, Liberty Mills (Plunge Creek), Spring Creek, and part of the Ogans Creek territory (rest taken from Andrews, or Antioch).

In September, 1836, Joseph Harter came from Montgomery Co., Ohio, and settled on Eel River, where the town of North Manchester now stands. His son, Eli, erected the second house and really became the first permanent founder as Peter Ogan, who erected the first (a niere cabin) soon moved away. Eli's daughter, Phoebe, was the first white child born here. She married D. S. T. Butterbaugh, from whom stem numerous descendants in the community and elsewhere, including Mrs. A. W. Cordier, of Lake Success, N. Y. Joseph Harter erected a grist mill and owned considerable land.

The Harters, and their wives, were members of the Brethren. Soon others came from Southern Ohio, including Daniel Swank, Isaac and David Ulrey, Samuel Ulrey, Jacob Cripe, Jacob Swihart, Jacob Metzger, and others. William Moss, from Mexico, Daniel Cripe, John Miller, and John Leatherman, all from Elkhart County, came in to preach. In 1838 a church was organized and Joseph Harter was called to the ministry while Isaac Ulrey was already a deacon. David Ulrey was called to the ministry in 1839, advanced later and ordained in 1850. In 1840 Jacob Stevens and Philip Weybright, deacons, moved in. Jacob Cripe and Jacob Metzger were called to the ministry in 1844, advanced about 1853 and ordained 1863. James Tracy and Jacob Miller of Northern Indiana greatly assisted in the ministerial work. Early settlers included Peter Wright, 1845, and John Miller, 1853.



In 1852 the congregation was divided and the northern part retained the name Eel River and the southern part was now called Manchester. Nicholas Frantz, Israel Harter and Jacob Karns, ministers, moved in. The first two preached in English and the last, along with Joseph Harter, preached in German. Some were prejudiced against English preaching in those days. In the 60's two elders moved in, Jacob Funderburg from Huntington (d. 1896) and George Grossnickle from Maryland (d. 1891).

Although the larger part of the membership seems to have lived north of town, the first meeting house, a log structure, 30 x 40, was built three miles southeast of town. There was no fund-raising (practically no cash was spent), no building committee, and no architect's plans, and no dedication. In 1858 a frame church, 40 x 80, was built on the present site of the West Manchester house. Only \$500 was needed to build this large house, work and materials being donated. It was here that the Annual Meeting of 1878 was held.

Some early deacons were Eli Harter, Henry Harter, Adam Ohmart, Jacob Cripe, John Heeter, John Blickenstaff, and Joseph Lautzenheiser. There is no record known of any elections for the ministry for nearly forty years, till about 1880, when Isaac Miller was called.

Joseph Harter had oversight of the church till his death in 1861 and was followed by Nicholas Frantz, who had helped him in his later years. He in turn was followed by Israel Harter, who died 1875, one year after Elder Frantz. Jacob Karns followed for five years and was relieved of the oversight at a special council in 1880. Jacob Funderburgh succeeded and had charge till the coming of R. H. Miller in 1882. Elder Karns went with the Old Order group.

The Old Order and Progressive movements produced a real crisis in the Manchester church. R. H. Miller's leadership at this critical time seems to have saved the church and put it in the way of growth. He was so obviously loyal to the Brethren doctrines and practices and yet so progressive in his thinking that he was able to hold both the liberal and conservative wings together. Three laymen rendered faithful help financially: Daniel Horning, Abraham Miller, and John Miller.

In 1881 a neat, commodious churchhouse was built in the town. After a favorable decision in the conference of 1886, a Sunday school was organized (there had been one in the Miller schoolhouse, north of town for some time). In 1887 Gorman B. Heeter and A. L. Wright were called to the ministry and Emanuel Grossnickle and Joseph and Henry Ohmart, deacons.

In 1891 the old frame house west of town was replaced by a large brick church, dedicated by Bro. L. W. Teeter. Very shortly thereafter R. H. Miller died while at Mount Morris, Ill. and his was the first



funeral conducted in the new church. He is buried in the adjoining cemetery.

In the 1870's several ministers moved in: Michael Miller (d. 1900), Abraham Leedy, John Myers, and Jacob Landis. Also, a part of the Ogans Creek church territory was lost by the organization of that church in 1873. In 1911 the West Manchester congregation became a separate church.

Manchester College, taken over by the Brethren, 1895, has greatly influenced the local church. The college brought to the community such leaders as L. T. Holsinger, David Hollinger, L. H. Eby, E. S. Young, J. Edson Ulrey, and M. M. Sherrick. L. T. Holsinger was elder, 1897-99, followed by A. L. Wright, 1899-1911. During this period, in 1901, the church called to the ministry E. M. Crouch, D. O. Cottrell, and H. A. Studebaker. In 1907 the original town church was replaced by a much larger one and dedicated the first Sunday in January, 1908, by Elder P. B. Fitzwater, a professor of Bible at the college.

Four more Annual Conferences have been held here, since the first in 1878. The next one was in 1888, and was the scene of the passing of the great leader, James Quinter, while in public prayer. In 1900 the conference was again held here, this time just west of the railroad on what is now Seventh Street. In 1929 the Conference was held on the campus of the college, using the buildings and a large tent. Finally, during the Second World War period, a Conference of somewhat restricted attendance was held on the campus. This time no tents were needed.

It would be impossible to make mention of all the ministers who have held membership here during the years since the new church was built, 1907. Jacob Hollinger lived here a few years, prior to his death in 1907. W. W. Barnhart came to the college, settled here, and died, 1910. J. C. Murray lived here the later years of his life; P. B. Fitzwater did a great deal of preaching and lecturing. In 1910 I. B. Book, L. D. Ikenberry, Calvin Eiler, and Otho Winger were ordained to the eldership. W. W. Barnhart died just a few days before his ordination was to take place.

Deacons who have been elected since 1895 are as follows: Esta Miller, Ephraim Wertenberger, John Cupp, Jacob Miller, Samuel Boyer, Nathaniel Miller, George Shively, Ora Lower, Walter Boyer, Robert Stauffer, Russell Werking, C. W. Bagwell, Lloyd Mishler, Jesse Landis, George Smith, Don Beery, Arlo Gump, Guy Miller and William Hartsough. Moving in since then have been Simon Burkett, Henry Buck, Zachariah Emerick, Aaron Ulrey, John Stauffer, Henry Mummert, Moses Hoover, Eli Cottrell, Samuel Haines, Solomon Workman, Samuel Driver, J. E. Dotterer, O. G. Brubaker, E. L. Burger, Ray Emley, O. C. Frantz, Claude Hanson, M. H. Huffman,



Rudolph Keever, Herman Leckrone, George Rinker, Henry Roeger, Charles Rohrer, Dale Strickler, Ward Zook, Robert Beery, Daniel Hartsough, Ocal Robins, and Eugene Stone.

The elders who have had charge of the church since the West Manchester organization, 1911, have been as follows: S. S. Blough, 1911-1913; adjoining elders, 1913-1915; J. H. Wright, 1915-1919; T. E. George 1919-1921; Otho Winger, 1921-1927; J. Edson Ulrey, 1927-29; Edward Kintner, 1929-.

After the ten year pastorate of R. H. Miller, there was no regular pastoral arrangement till A. L. Wright became elder, 1899-1911, serving part of the time as pastor as well as elder. From 1915 to 1917 Grover L. Wine was pastor. From 1919 the pastorates have been continuous and are as follows: T. E. George, 1919-21; R. H. Miller, 1922-1929; H. L. Hartsough, 1929-42; Roy D. Boaz, 1943-46 (with Mabel Winger Moomaw assisting); H. F. Richards, 1946 - (With Vernon Miller full-time assistant, 1946-7 and Harold Statler, and Robert McFadden, part-time assistants, 1947-51).

Expansion has taken place in both facilities and program. In 1914 the church authorized the organization at the college of a Sunday School for "boarding students only." In 1917 the Mission band of the college was granted permission to erect a chapel in the west end of the town. Services continued here for many years but it is no longer used. In 1920 the church purchased a parsonage on Mill Street. This was later sold and the present parsonage was the gift of Bro. and Sis. Calvin Ulrey. In 1925 a considerable addition was built at the rear of the church for Sunday school rooms, kitchen, etc. The church is raising a building fund at the present time, looking forward to extensive remodeling of the present plant. (This work was started June, 1950 and the dedication service was held Nov. 4, 1951.)

The Manchester church has contributed to the general Brotherhood in many ways. Adam and Alice King Eby began their long missionary careers in India in 1900. The latter is now living with us. Dr. Raymond Cottrell, 1913, Lillian Grisso, 1917, Mrs. I. W. Moomaw (Mabel Winger), 1923, have served on the India field also. In 1940 Mrs. Rolland Flory (Josephine Keever) went with her husband to China but were for some time prisoners of the Japanese in the Philippines. Otho Winger served twenty-nine years on the General Mission Board. Many others have served on numerous boards, committees, etc.

**Manchester**

**Markle**

**Pike Creek (Monticello)**

**Peru (Peru)**

**Marion**

**Mexico**

**Guernsey**

**Bloomfield**







for the Brotherhood. Bro. H. L. Hartsough, pastor, was loaned to the Brethren Service Committee to visit the Brethren boys in army camps, 1942.

The church has licensed the following (sometimes re-licensed): Floyd Blickenstaff, 1920; George Hunn, 1932; Ralph Finnell (ordained to ministry, 1935), 1933; Arthur Shull, 1934; Paul Hiatt, 1940; Vernon Miller, 1940 (ordained to ministry 1941); Dean Frantz, 1940 (ordained to ministry, 1942); Ernest Shull, 1941 (ordained to ministry, 1942); Vance Sanger, 1943; Gordon Shull, 1943; Edwin Esbensen, 1943; Gladden Mathis, 1943; Henry Esbensen, 1943; John Hamer, 1943 (ordained to ministry, 1946); Kenneth Frantz, 1943 (ordained to ministry, 1946); Richard Moomaw, 1945; Herbert Fisher, 1945; and Philip Werking, 1946. Robert Neher, 1950, and Henry Campbell (re-licensed, 1951). Geneva George (Mrs. Vernon Kinzie) was given a permanent license, 1939.

In 1919 L. W. Shultz and D. F. Priser were ordained to the eldership. Others were C. S. Morris, C. Ray Keim, O. S. Hamer, all in 1936, and L. M. Hoff and A. W. Cordier, 1939. Many other elders have moved into and many out of the congregation.

The present membership of the congregation is 984, around 200 of these being non-resident.

The Superintendents of the Sunday school since 1915 have been: H. J. Beachly, 1915-16; Edward Kintner, 1916-17; V. F. Schwalm, 1917-18; S. S. Gump, 1919-20; A. R. Eikenberry, 1921-24, 1931-?; W. W. Peters, 1924-?; O. S. Hamer, 1935-37, 1938-40; Roy Dilling, 1937-38; L. M. Hoff, 1940-42; 1947-; O. W. Neher, 1942-43; Ira Frantz, 1943-45; J. I. Baugher, 1945-46; E. K. Zeigler, 1946-47; L. M. Hoff 1947-50; Paul Keller, 1950-51; and C. S. Morris, 1951-.

### **MARION (West)**

In earlier years Aaron Moss had preached in the city of Marion and perhaps other Brethren also. But, the real beginning of this church dates from the coming of J. W. Norris, 1911, pastor of the Landesville church, a few miles away. The members living in the city greatly desired services and Bro. Norris responded to the call. The first place of worship was the office building of the Canton Glass factory located in West Marion. Bro. Norris and Elder Daniel Snell held revival meetings in 1911 and in December a church was organized with sixty members. Elder J. D. Mishler held a tent meeting on the present church site.

The growth of the work necessitated providing a house of worship. In 1912 the Mission Board bought a lot at West Second and Forrest streets and a church was erected in 1913. Many were gathered in but there was considerable difficulty in holding the flock



together—some moved away and others fell away from the faith. Of around two hundred who had been members in 1911 or had come in since, there were only eighty-five on the roll in 1916. From the removal of Bro. Norris in 1916 to 1936 several ministers served, including Obed Rife, R. E. Gotschall (son-in-law of Bro. Norris), J. K. Eikenberry, Edward Kintner, and Geneva George (assistant to Bro. Norris for a time, who, apparently must have been living in the congregation in his later years). Pastors since 1935 have been Loren Bowman, 1937-39; Glen Baird, 1939-40; James Beahm, 1940-43; Ernest Jehnsen, 1943-45; Walter Fisher, 1945-48; Charles R. Oberlin, 1948-51. Men who have served for short periods since 1936 are Perry Coblentz, John Eberly, Ira Frantz, Paul Kendall, B. F. Kendall, and William Tinkle.

Deacons who have served include George Graham, Otto France, John Shroll, Thomas Zent, Ralph Huffman (1945), Lloyd Brubaker (1948), Noah Todd, Russell Dailey and James McDaniel; and Oliver Mathias (1928), Marshall Pence, Roy Hileman, and Wilbur Frantz (last four by letter).

The following have served as Sunday school superintendents: Cecil Wheeldon, 1925-27; Willard Smith, 1928; Arthur Priser, 1929, 1934 and 1937; Alma Wood, 1935-36; Lawrence Hileman, 1938-39, 1944-46; Kimber Humbarger, 1940-42; Lloyd Brubaker, 1943 and 1947-48; Robert Humbarger in 1951.

In 1936 the church building was destroyed by fire (Feb. 9). Temporarily, the congregation accepted the kind offer of the Central Christian Church, one of several offers. Since this church had no pastor at the time our people held their Sunday school in the basement and supplied the pulpit for both congregations (Bro. J. W. Norris and Sister Geneva George). This was followed till the new church was built and dedicated Oct. 17, 1937, with Bro. L. W. Shultz bringing the dedicatory sermon. By 1944 the church was able to burn the mortgage. Present trend here is decidedly upward. The membership is 165. The members, by heroic co-operation in work and money, have built a parsonage just south of the church.

### MARKLE

The Markle church was formerly known as Eight Mile prior to 1902. It was organized from the eastern part of the Salimonie territory in 1852. Samuel Murray was the first elder and served many years. The membership grew to about 100. A house was built four miles north of Markle on the farm of Robert Smuts, in 1877. The Progressive movement claimed many members, including leaders. In 1887 the Free Will Baptist church in Markle was purchased and is still in use.

Marshall Hamilton and David Truby, ministers, went with the



Progressive movement. George Holler, Joseph Spitzer, J. W. Felt-house and D. J. Wampler served as ministers. The early elders in order were Samuel Murray, W. R. Deeter, Dorsey Hodgden, Noah Fisher, and Lewis Huffman. D. B. Garber, elder, moved here in 1906 and was elder of the church to 1920. Only two elders have served since then: D. W. Paul, 1920-44; and O. C. Rife, since 1944. Daniel Funderburg was elected deacon in 1906, minister in 1913, and ordained in 1917. John Eberly was ordained in 1933.

Deacons in the earlier period were James Cline, Sr., Robert Smuts, George Holler, Benjamin Harden, Elmer Burkett, Edward Eikenberry, A. J. Taylor, Henry Castile, John Stockman, George W. Cline, D. H. Brumbaugh, Samuel Kline, J. S. Crull, L. H. Heaston, Daniel Funderburg, Benjamin Bowman, Charles Poorman, and Josiah Cook. Later deacons: Dan Heaston, 1920; Martin Fields, 1920 (moved away); Wallace Heaston, 1920 (later discontinued); Merrill Winebrenner, 1922 (moved away); G. C. Martin, 1935 (moved away); Paul Brumbaugh, 1935; Carl J. Freds, 1935; and Dale Hoover, 1935.

The pastoral list is a rather long one. It includes the following: D. B. Garber, 1915-19; I. I. Thomas, short period, 1919; Irvin Thomas, Mar.-May, 1920; E. F. Weaver, Aug.-Sept., 1920; W. W. Peters, Oct., 1920; B. D. Kerlin, 1920-23; D. B. Garber and Daniel Funderburg, 1923-26. I. R. Beery, 1926-30. John Eberly, 1930-34. Russell Weller, 1934-35; John Eberly, 1935 (Mar.-Nov.); Roger Shively, 1936-40; Albert Harshbarger, 1940-41; O. C. Rife, 1941 to 1949. Wayne Miller, 1949-50; and David Holl has been called to be pastor here and at Andrews (1951).

Sunday school superintendents are as follows: Charles Paul, 1915-19; Dan Heaston, 1919-20; Wallace Heaston, 1920-25; Raymond Earhart, 1925-27; Paul Brumbaugh, 1927-28; Dan Heaston, 1928-31; G. C. Martin, 1931-34; Roscoe Cobb, 1934-35; Joseph Hart, 1935-38; Howard McClurg, 1938-42; Mark Brumbaugh, 1942-44; Geneva Frantz, 1944-45; Dale Hoover, 1945-46; Paul Brumbaugh, 1946-.

The following were elected to the ministry: Jesse Cook, 1920; Ora Garber, 1922; George Beery, 1928; Paul Kendall, 1931; and Roger Shively, 1937 (licensed at Huntington, 1936, installed here, 1937).

This church reports a membership of 81, less than in 1916. In 1917 D. R. McFadden held a meeting here with thirty-two added to the church.

### MEXICO

In the fall of 1836 Peter (deacon) and Elizabeth Fisher and Nathaniel and Frances Clingenpeel moved from Preble County, Ohio to this vicinity. The next year the following moved here from the Upper Twin Creek congregation in Ohio: Jacob Brower, minister; Jacob Flora and John Brower, deacons; Jonathan Fisher, Michael Fouts,



Henry Brower, Daniel Albaugh, Peter Sayger, and Susannah Dillman. Among these are names common around Mexico in later years.

William Moss, an elder, and wife, came in 1838. He was a vigorous, capable leader. Preaching was held in the homes and a church organization was established in 1839, with one elder, one minister, and three deacons for leadership.

In 1843 George Brower, a minister from Preble County, Ohio, moved in. The first communion was held in the barn of Peter Fisher, 1840. John Clingenpeel and wife were the first persons baptized. As often happened in those early days, fourteen were baptized following a love feast in 1846. Among these fourteen were Benjamin Fisher and wife, George Fisher and wife, and Stephen Rush and wife—two sons and a son-in-law of Peter Fisher.

In 1850 George Brower was ordained to the eldership, William Moss, Jr., elected to the ministry, and Peter Sayger to the deacon's office. Elder Peter Nead, of Ohio officiated at these elections. In 1858 Isaac Fisher and Jacob Barnhart (son, and son-in-law of deacon Peter Fisher) were called to the ministry, and four deacons were chosen: Noah Flora, John Eikenberry, Daniel Balsbaugh and Benjamin Fisher (another son of deacon Peter).

Services were held in homes and communions in barns till 1861, when a brick church, 44 x 64, was erected. This house was used till 1892 when the present frame church was built (50 x 80).

The church grew rapidly. In 1867 Isaac Fisher and Jacob Barnhart were ordained to the eldership, John Eikenberry and Daniel Balsbaugh were elected to the ministry, and John Arnet, Zeria Baldwin, and Isaac Fisher (distant kinsman of elder Isaac, and now known as "deacon" Isaac), were elected deacons. In 1870 another son of Peter Fisher, Noah, elected deacon in Roann, now was elected to the ministry, along with Joseph Brower, and three deacons were elected: George Balsbaugh, James Hime'lick, and Jacob Fisher (youngest son of Peter). In 1885 Noah Fisher and Joseph Brower were ordained elders, Jacob Fisher and Robert Metzger called to the ministry, and Levi Eikenberry, Henry Balsbaugh and David Fetrow, deacons.

This church territory was originally very large and the Roann, Beaverdam, Kewanna, Peru, Adamsboro, and Logansport churches have since been formed out of it. In the early forties three families settled near Waverly: David Flora, Solomon Hyre, and Joseph Ellis. They held meetings in their homes till they built the Adamsboro house in 1885 and later became a separate church and, still later, became a part of the Logansport church. In the north part of Miami County lived the Leedys, Balsbaughs, Keiffers, Fikes, and others, who built the Wooleytown church (northeast of Denver) but it has been abandoned. Another house was built at Mud Lake in 1896 but it too



was abandoned. In 1872 the Courter house was built, meetings having been held earlier in the home of George Oilinger. It also has been abandoned (since 1916).

In 1889 Mexico became the site for the Old Folk's and Orphan's Home, the generous gift of Brother Levi Miller, of Mexico. Frank Fisher, and wife Lillie, were selected as overseers and soon became prominent leaders in the local and general church work. In 1890 the church was shocked and saddened by the death of Elder Isaac Fisher in the pulpit at the opening of a meeting.

Between 1890 and 1909 the following elections occurred: 1891, John Lair and Irvin Fisher, ministers, and Levi Flora, A. D. Lair, and Samuel Kinzie, deacons; 1896, E. C. Witter, minister, and L. G. Witter and Isaiah Miller, deacons; 1897, Silas Fisher and William Denison, ministers, and Henry Fisher and William Eikenberry, deacons; 1903, Harry Fisher and J. E. Miller, deacons; 1906, Ira Fisher, deacon; 1907, Kernie Eikenberry, minister, and Marion Miller, deacon; 1909, Walter Balsbaugh, Lawrence Rush, and Daniel Kinzie, deacons.

Many ministers moved in through the years: 1857, George Baer; 1860, John Lair and David Keiffer; 1872, Samuel Myers; 1884, J. J. Fox; 1889, Frank Fisher; 1891, Enos Fisher; 1893, Michael Minnich; 1894, Samuel Murray; 1896, Joseph Elliott; 1902, G. W. Myers; 1903, John Appleman. George Baer was an especially promising minister but did not live long (d. 1864). Many of the others did not remain in the congregation. Elder Appleman had charge of the Homes for five years.

The first Sunday school was organized in 1891 and was held at three in the afternoon, Frank Fisher being the superintendent. He also organized a Sunday school at the country house.

Elders ordained in later years have been Kernie Eikenberry, 1912; Walter Balsbaugh and Harley Fisher, 1921. Ministers ordained included only one, David E. Ockerman, 1947 (licensed 1945). First degree calls to the ministry included Everett Fisher, 1919, Walter Balsbaugh, 1917, and Harley Fisher, 1914. Eugene Troutwine was licensed in 1948.

Later deacons called included Marion Swank and John Fisher, 1911; Ezra Musselman, 1914; Tony Fisher, Rufus Kinzie, and Edward Taggart, 1918; John Richardson and John Kraning, 1926; Henry Balsbaugh, 1947, Joseph Balsbaugh, Henry Swayer, and Raymond Musselman, 1949.

Frank Fisher was presiding elder from 1900 to 1921. He was followed by A. G. Crosswhite, 1922; Walter Balsbaugh, 1923-33, 1937-40, 1942-44; L. E. Ockerman, 1934-36; Harley Fisher, 1941-42; T. G. Weaver, 1945-46; and Robert Sink, 1947-1951.



Mexico had the free ministry arrangement till 1943. T. G. Weaver served 1943-46. Robert Sink 1946-1951, and E. Paul Weaver, 1951-.

The Superintendents of the Sunday school since 1914 are: Walter Balsbaugh, 1914-17; Tony Fisher, 1918-19, 1928-33; Ezra Musselman, 1920-24; John Richardson, 1925-27; Ernest Fisher, 1934-36; Robert Kraning, 1936-40; Paul Fisher, 1941-42; David E. Ockerman, 1943-45; Joseph Balsbaugh, 1946-47; Henry Balsbaugh, 1948-.

This has been a strong church with able leadership through many years. At present the membership is 271. They celebrated their centennial in 1939.

### MONTICELLO

The first Brethren families to come into this part of Indiana came from Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, 1831 to 1835. Among these were the Peter Price, Valentine Rothrock, and George Keever families. About fifteen years later the Hanawalt and Houser families, from the same place, settled around Burnettsville, nine miles east of Monticello. In 1861, from Morrison's Cove (Pennsylvania) came the Dillings, Snoebergers, Breckbiels, and Furreys, all settling near Monticello. A year later, came the Joseph Amick and Daniel Mertz families to Burnettsville.

A part of Bachelor Run territory, this group had elected David Fisher to the ministry in 1846. In 1848, a group of members broke away and joined Peter Eyman's movement, the New Dunkard or (later) Church of God. The center of this group is still in White County. In 1859 the Monticello church was organized, including White County and much territory to the north and east. Isaac Ikenberry was elder 1859 to 1865. Other early ministers were Joseph Amick (1862), John Snoeberger (1859), J. G. Royer (1872), and A. C. Culp (1873). J. G. Royer, a school teacher at Versailles, Ohio, moved in following the coming of the Reiffs (his wife's family) to Burnettsville. He taught at Burnettsville (1871-6) and was superintendent of schools at Monticello, 1876 to 1884, when he became president of Mount Morris College. He started the first Sunday school in this church, 1870.

Four early deacons were George Keever (1859), Daniel Mertz (1862), Daniel Young (1859), and John Dilling (1862).

Five ministers were called, 1882 to 1885: S. M. Bechtelheimer, J. A. Weaver, and Frank Fisher, all in 1882; David Dilling and A. R. Bridge, 1885. In 1887 seven preaching points were listed: Pike Creek (Monticello), Burnetts Creek (Burnettsville), Paton, Oak Grove, Palestine, Winamac, Bowman School House, and Guernsey. Burnetts Creek was organized as a separate church in 1898 with a membership



of fifty. All the others have since disappeared except the first and the last. They constitute the two houses of the congregation today.

Andrew C. Culp, a tall, muscular man with a striking personality and great native ability, was an effective preacher and presiding elder for years. J. A. Weaver, well educated and refined, moved west (as did Bro. Culp, to Nebraska) and was killed while cranking a car. A. R. Bridge served the church for many years (from 1885 to 1921). He died at North Manchester, January 30, 1948, having served in the ministry sixty-three years.

Later ministers called were George O. Bridge and Roy Dilling, 1908; Edwin Zimmerman, Walter Marberger, and Dorsey Butterbaugh, 1919; and Dolar Richey, 1925. Ordinations of elders: John Snoeberger, 1859, J. G. Royer, 1872; David Dilling, 1895; A. R. Bridge, 1913; Ray Showalter, 1930; Frederick Hollingshead, 1939; and Jay J. Johnson, 1946. Ministers who served in the free ministry, but not named already were D. W. Hostetler, Adam Young, Isaac Hanawalt, and George D. Dilling.

Pastors have been: Charles R. Oberlin, 1923-30; A. Ray Showalter, 1930-33; J. W. Fyock, 1934-35; Frederick Hollingshead, 1936-39; Galen Ogden, 1939-40; Norman J. Baugher, 1940-42; David Studebaker, 1942-43 and Jay J. Johnson 1943-.

Elders who have had oversight of this church included Isaac Ikenberry, 1859-65; John Snoeberger, J. G. Royer, Andrew C. Culp, J. A. Weaver, David Dilling, 1897-1914; Gorman B. Heeter, 1914-20; John H. Wright, 1920-23; Charles R. Oberlin 1923-30 and 1935-46; A. Ray Showalter, 1930-33; Ray Shank, 1933-34; J. W. Fyock, 1934-35 and Jay J. Johnson, 1946-.

The list of deacons is an unusually long one. Their names and dates of installation (when given) are as follows: the four listed above; Solomon Furrey, Jacob Furrey, George D. Dilling, Christian Breichbiel, William Rothrock, Benjamin Bowsher, Amos Freed, John Culp, George O. Bridge, Joseph Haas, Henry Schaffer, R. H. Whitcher, John Keever, Joseph Kellenburger (step-father of Elder Frank Fisher) and John Hibner, 1906; Rudolph Keever, 1913; Joseph Dilling, George Kepp, and Willard Cochran, 1919; Earl Hibner, Amos Carter, and Frank Cowger, 1936; Charles Barnes and Clyde Bridge, 1949.

Sunday school superintendents since 1901 are as follows: John L. Hibner, Earl Dilling, Frank Cowger, Russell Jay, Mrs. Hazel Hare, and Clyde Bridge. The last is serving at Pike Creek and Arthur Welte at Guernsey, 1951.

The Pike Creek house, one mile east and three miles north of Monticello, was built in 1868. It seems that Palestine, to the west, was organized in 1870 with a membership of twenty. The Guernsey house, one mile west of Guernsey, was built in 1913 and remodeled in 1939



with J. O. Winger the speaker of the occasion. In 1944 the Pike Creek house was remodeled with V. F. Schwalm of Manchester College the speaker. Just west of this building a seven-room parsonage was completed in 1948.

This church had a Home and Foreign Missionary Society from 1887 to 1923. Their query to Conference in 1902 resulted in that body taking steps for our young people's organization of the Brotherhood.

The church had a membership of 114 in 1916; in 1950 it was 193.

#### **PERU (and Bloomfield Mission)**

Although this church now has a membership of 449, it is one of the younger churches of the district. It was organized in March, 1912, after having been under the direction of the district Mission Board, with Elder Silas Fisher in charge of the work. The new churchhouse was dedicated the day after the church was organized. Some of those taking part in the service were Elders J. C. Murray, George Swihart, J. G. Stinebaugh, Frank Fisher, and others. Otho Winger preached the dedicatory service. The building cost \$5,000. In 1932 a balcony was added and in 1937 an addition to the church was built.

Wayne Lawson (1945) and Ellis Angle (1946) were licensed to preach; S. T. Fisher was ordained to the ministry in 1912, the day the church was organized; Ellis Angle, in 1948; and Wayne Lawson, 1950.

The elders in charge have been the following: Irvin Fisher, 1912-13; J. W. Norris, 1913-14; S. S. Blough, 1917; S. T. Fisher, 1917-19; J. G. Stinebaugh, 1918; Brother Kreider, 1919-22; A. G. Crosswhite, 1922-27; J. O. Winger, 1927; H. H. Helman, 1927-30; Charles R. Oberlin, 1930-47; Perry Coblentz, 1947-48; Edward Kintner, 1948-.

The pastors of the church have been: Silas Fisher, 1912-1921; A. G. Crosswhite, 1921-1927; H. H. Helman, 1927-1929; Glenn Garber, 3 months, 1928; Charles R. Oberlin, 1929-1946; John B. Wieand, 1946-1948, and Fred Hollenberg, 1948-1951. Deacons who have served the church are as follows (with date of installation): Ira Miller and Orville Trent, 1912; Joe Nicodemus, 1913; Charles Butler, 1915; Clarence Orpurt and Marvin Dailey, 1919; Enoch Lawson and Floyd Mullinix, 1922; Arnold Flora, Milton Bishop, Dean Myers, and Dr. Lee Burrous, 1949.

Sunday school superintendents from 1909 to 1934 were: Aaron Klepinger, 1909-11; Ira Miller, 1912-13; Edward Wisenbarger, 1914; Elmer Gunion, 1915-16; Charles Butler, 1917-19; Marvin Dailey, 1920; Percy Klepinger, 1921-26; Floyd Mullinix, 1926-28; Jesse Klepinger, 1928-33 and Clarence Orpurt, 1933-41, 1948-51; Dr. E. Lee Burrous, 1941-42; Raymond Kesler, 1942-44; Ellis Angle 1944-47; and Norma Flora, 1947-48.



**BLOOMFIELD MISSION (Peru)**

One Sunday morning in 1937, the members of the Bethany class (Peru church) were discussing the passage of Scripture concerning the man borne of four and let down into the house from the roof for Jesus to heal. Out of this Scripture of doing for others, was born the Bloomfield Mission. After much prayer and planning, the district of Bloomfield was canvassed and a Sunday school was organized. The first Sunday school was held on May 1, 1937. The first meetings were held in various homes until a residence was rented and used for services. There were two rooms upstairs and two down. Some old circus chairs were rented for seating. This was used until in 1943 when a house was purchased and remodeled and dedicated on February 20, 1944. This building consisted of four rooms, an auditorium and basement. The work continued to grow until this building was too small, so again, it was remodeled and rededicated on February 17, 1946. Today, the building consists of seven class rooms and a large basement. On the first Sunday in September, 1942, Rev. Mrs. Goldie Killion began what proved to be a very successful pastorate which lasted until August 31, 1949. At present they have no pastor, but Paul Fisher, one of the workers there, gives Bible lessons during the preaching hour. These have been very profitable meetings. At present, they are having Bible study on Monday evenings. These are for the purpose of training teachers. The membership, at this time, is 70.

**PIPE CREEK**

About 1851 Brethren began to hold meetings along or near Pipe Creek in the southern part of Miami County. Samuel Murray, a minister in the second degree, moved in that year and in 1852 they organized a church with sixteen charter members. Other ministers were Abraham Shepler and Gottlieb Keller. The first deacons were John Cripe, Benjamin Kinsey, David Shirley, Jacob Long, George Myers, Daniel Ray (Wray?), and Samuel Puterbaugh.

Under the leadership of Bro. Murray, the church grew. He was ordained and given over-sight 1857, Elder Abraham Moss having been elder in charge, 1852-1857 (apparently non-resident). In the early 1860's John E. Shively and Philip Erbaugh were called to the ministry. (The latter went with the Progressive movement, later.) In 1864 Elder Murray moved to Huntington County (Antioch or Andrews, then Salamonie) and John E. Shively lived in the Santa Fe church after its organization in 1871. Elder Shepler presided over this church from 1864 to 1885. Gottlieb Keller and Abraham Rinehart had joint charge 1885 to 1896. The latter died 1916 at the age of 93. The elders in charge since that date have been as follows: Daniel P. Shively, 1896-1900; Daniel P. Nead, 1900-1911; Peter Houk, 1911-14; Frank



Fisher, 1914-21; Davis P. Klepinger, 1921-23; W. C. Stinebaugh, 1923-27; and T. A. Shively, 1927-. Joseph Shepler, minister, moved in at two different times. Forrest Hostetler, an elder, is now a member of this congregation, coming from the disbanded Santa Fe church.

Elections and ordinations of ministers, in addition to those already noted: Daniel Bowser, 1873, ordained 1889; Daniel P. Shively, 1873, ordained 1889; Daniel Long, 1885, ordained 1905; Isaac Shepler, 1890 (died 1905); D. P. Nead, 1894, ordained 1899; Davis P. Klepinger, 1902, ordained, 1919; E. E. Dailey, 1906, advanced, 1907; T. A. Shively, 1922, advanced, 1923, ordained, 1924; Milo Huffman, 1931 (lic.) ministry, 1933, ordained 1939; Ernest Shively, 1931, (lic.) ministry 1933; Willis Maugans, 1945 (lic.), ministry, 1946.

Besides the deacons listed above those who were elected in the earlier years but not serving in 1916 were John D. Klepinger, Peter Sager, Isaac Shively, Isaac Shepler, George Wolf, Davis P. Klepinger, George Simmons, Samuel Puterbaugh, George Cunningham, Henry Jeffrey and E. E. Dailey. Those serving in 1916 were: A. Cripe, William Wissinger, W. E. Puterbaugh, Allen Metzger, Jacob Wissinger, and E. S. Metzger. Deacons elected since 1916: Isaac Coblentz, Martin Huffman and Joseph Wissinger, 1916; Perry Metzger and Robert Clingenpeel, 1926; Willis Maugans, Avery Myers, and Charles Young, 1941; Roy Miller, Vinol Bowyer, and Ralph Wissinger, 1948. The two elected in 1926, Avery Myers, and those elected 1948, constitute the present deacon body.

Superintendents of the Sunday school have been as follows: John Erbaugh, David Graft, Daniel Nead, Aaron Klepinger, George Simmons, Charles Shively, E. E. Dailey, Martin Huffman, 1921; Joseph Wissinger, 1922-24; Robert Clingenpeel, 1925-29; Milo Huffman 1930-32; Willis Maugans, 1932 (last part); 1934-37, 1938-45; T. A. Hopper, 1933; Ellis Angle, 1938; Avery Myers, 1946-48; Vinol Bowyer, 1949.

The first house was erected in 1856, a half mile south of Nead, on land donated by Daniel Shively. The present large brick structure was built on land donated by Hannah Metzger a mile and a half west of Nead and about seven miles south west of Peru. In 1921 interior alterations and improvements were made. In the spring of 1876 Elder R. H. Miller held a debate here with Elder Aaron Walker of the Disciples. Following the debate many were added to the church by baptism. The first Sunday school was organized in 1884 with 18 classes and 200 enrolled. Elder Daniel Wyson of Nappanee held six series of meetings here. There has been at least one series held every year since 1884. In 1916 the membership was 155; it is now 119. There have been no pastors, all the preaching having been done by free ministry.



**PITTSBURG (Delphi)**

This is the youngest church in the district and is located in the town of Pittsburg, near Delphi. It had its origin in a group who had been members of the Delphi Church. The Delphi Church had originally been a mission or preaching point in the Southern Indiana District. A committee of Southern Indiana and Middle Indiana was appointed to establish a church in Delphi. They were J. G. Stinebaugh, Gorman Heeter, and Jerry Barnhart. G. F. Wagoner and Frank Replogle did most of the preaching for a time. Bro. K. Eikenberry served later. The Minutes of the District Meeting of Middle Indiana for 1920 record an action changing the line between the districts so that Delphi could be in Middle Indiana. It was stated that services were being held in homes and a church house was needed. The next year the church was listed as having fifty-eight members, twenty-five having been baptized. J. G. Stinebaugh was doing the preaching. In 1922 the Presbyterian church, two blocks from the courthouse, was bought for \$6,000. In 1924 there was a debt of \$2,700 on this church. The only records further in the District Meeting minutes regarding Delphi were the items of a summer pastorate (1927) of Samuel Mohler, the withdrawal of mission board support (1930), and the disorganization of the church, November, 1930 (in 1931 minutes).

Some of the members went to adjoining churches, particularly Lower Deer Creek, some united with other denominations locally and others continued as an active group and began holding Sunday School in the home of Brother William Heiland in Delphi. The use of a building, formerly a Methodist church in Pittsburg was secured and the first public worship service was held there December 3, 1930. From that date till March 3, 1939 (date of organization of the Pittsburg Church) Sunday school was held regularly, and usually preaching services, also, the attendance at Sunday school ranging from 25 to 45.

Ministers who served here during the 30's were L. T. Holsinger, 2 years; Clifford Workman, 3 years; J. G. Stinebaugh, one year; William Angle, one year; and Clarence Sink, one year. Only L. T. Holsinger lived in the community. L. L. Paul (1931), J. S. Zigler (1932), J. W. Root (1935), and J. E. Jarboe (1938) held revivals, resulting in added membership. Also, several families moved in.

Since the organization of the Pittsburg Church in 1939, there has been continuous ministerial and pastoral service, much of the time rendered by the joint labors of two ministers. Jeremiah Barnhart served from 1939 to 1946; John R. Wagoner, 1939 to 1942; John A. Laprad since his licensing in 1942; Lewis Deardorff 1946 to 1950; John A. Laprad is now pastor, 1951. Besides Brother Barnhart and Brother Deardorff, the church has had the services of J. W. Root and



Ellis Wagoner as elders. Evangelists who have held meetings have been J. A. Snell, John B. Wieand, Dewey Rowe, B. M. Rollins, Dolar Ritchey, Harold Myers, B. D. Hirt, and Leo Miller. Pre-Easter service speakers have included Ira Hiatt, Charles R. Oberlin, and others.

In 1942 John A. Laprad was licensed and ordained to the ministry in 1944. Elmer Irelan, Earl Eis, and Dean Cripe were installed as deacons in 1939. Sunday school superintendents have been Earl Eis, 1939-40; John Laprad, 1941-42; William Heiland, 1942-43; Virgil Gray, 1943-45; Dean Cripe, 1945-46; James Kenworthy, Jr., 1946-48 and 1951-; W. B. Wilsey, 1948-.

The attendance has grown to nearly one hundred for Sunday school. The plant has been improved and enlarged but is still inadequate. In 1949 the church had a building fund of \$5,500. Very successful vacation Bible schools have been held, led by consecrated women of the church. The outlook here seems to be very good. The present membership is 159.

### PLEASANT DALE

"In the autumn of 1844, when this part of Indiana was yet a vast wilderness, unknown to civilization, a brother by the name of Philip Hartman, with his family, emigrated from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, to what was then the Far West. The only mode of conveyance at that time was the wagon. Many days they traveled through dismal swamps, fording swollen streams and facing many hardships, going through rain and storm, until finally they landed at the banks of what is known as Peterson Creek, Kirkland Township, Adams County, Indiana."

The above is the introductory paragraph of an account of the Pleasant Dale church written by Murl E. Fulk. It is a typical picture of what occurred over and over in these early days of Indiana.

Philip Hartman died the following year leaving the mother to care for the seven children, in a wilderness (she lived till 1871). For sixteen years she was the only member in this part of the state. Then, Israel Stoneburner moved in from Hocking County, Ohio. His wife was a member and he joined some years later. In 1868 Samuel Stump, hearing of these isolated members, came from near Markle and arranged monthly meetings. He was assisted by John Metzger who preached in German. They met in Israel Stoneburner's barn in the summer and in a school house in the winter. Some early baptisms were those of Henry Billman and wife and William Brown and wife. The interest was already growing when George W. Studebaker, at the request of the community and by the challenge of Christian Statler, debated the latter on the Lord's Supper, 1870. Studebaker must have



upheld his viewpoint in the minds of the people for eight asked for baptism: Abraham Beery, William Steele and wife, Israel Stoneburner, Peter Zimmerman and wife and Jonathan Zimmerman and wife, making a total membership now of fourteen. The next June they held a love feast in Stoneburner's barn, the first one by our people in Adams County, 1871.

Besides George W. Studebaker, who filled many early appointments, Samuel Neher preached for these people after coming to the Walnut Level Church in 1876. Some members came from Allen County and the work grew. In 1889 these Adams County members organized a church and built a house the following year. Bro. Silas Gilbert brought the dedicatory message and suggested the name for the church—Pleasant Dale—which was readily accepted. The church with its two-day communions, revivals, and regular meetings was the center of life for a growing congregation through the years till it numbered eighty in 1916 and one hundred ninety at the present time. The church is about eight miles south west of Decatur.

D. M. Byerly was called to the ministry the year the church was organized, 1889. Samuel Neher was the first elder, followed by Bro. Byerly who was ordained and placed in charge of the church, 1899. J. W. Stoneburner, 1894, Jacob Heller, 1892, and Howard Beagle, 1890, were ministers called in these early years. John H. Landis (1901), Jesse S. Byerly (1903), and Murl E. Fulk (1908) were called a few years later. John W. Stoneburner was ordained to the eldership in 1899 and John L. Kline in 1919, having moved in, 1913. I. F. Yaney also moved in, from Blue Creek, which was disorganized in 1905.

A list of the presiding elders is as follows: Samuel Neher, 1889-1899; Daniel M. Byerly, 1899-1907; 1912-18; D. B. Garber, 1907-09; George E. Swihart, 1909-12; Frank Fisher, 1918-23; H. L. Hart-sough, 1923-25; D. W. Paul, 1925-36; and Russell Weller, 1936-48; E. Paul Weaver, 1948-51.

The periods of service of the free ministry are as follows: Samuel Neher, D. M. Byerly, 1889-1923; Jacob Heller, 1892-1923; Howard Beagle, 1890-?; J. W. Stoneburner, 1894-1908; John Landis, 1901-1902; Jesse S. Byerly, 1903-23; I. F. Yaney, 1904-23; Murl E. Fulk, 1908-11; John L. Kline, 1912-23; Calvin Eiler, 1902-06; James Rogers, 1921-22; Orin Gregory, 1912-.

Those who have served as pastors (all part time except S. L.

**Pipe Creek**

**Pleasant Dale**

**Portland**

**Salamonie**

**Pittsburg**

**Pleasant View**

**Roann**

**South Whitley**







Cover) are: R. C. Wenger, 1923-26; S. L. Cover, 1926-29; D. M. Byerly, 1929-30; D. B. Garber, 1931-35; Russell Weller, 1935-1951; John Mishler, 1951-.

Deacons called have been: William Hartman, Charles Studebaker, Jacob Olwine, Jacob Heller, 1889; Henry J. Dilling, 1893; E. E. Zimmerman, 1893; Adam Hoover and John H. Landis, 1899; Frank Booker, 1903; Joe Baumgartner and Eli Burket, 1908; Oliver V. Dilling and Thomas Griffiths, 1913; Lloyd Clowser and Harley Olwine, 1920; Lester A. Adler, William Bryan, and Oscar Geisel, 1945.

The Superintendents of the Sunday school have been: Jacob Heller, 1891; D. M. Byerly, 1895; Henry J. Dilling, 1897 and 1899; E. E. Zimmerman, 1898; Daniel Landis, 1901; Jesse S. Byerly, 1902; Elva Oberholtzer, 1905; Ray Olwine, 1906; Eli Burket, 1907; Murl Fulk, 1908; O. V. Dilling and Thomas Griffiths, each half of 1909; Dora Yaney, 1910; E. E. Zimmerman, 1911-12; O. V. Dilling 1913-23; Lulu Byerly, 1924; Lloyd Clowser, 1925-32; Fred J. Adler, 1933-36; Oscar Geisel, 1937; Lloyd Byerly, 1941-44; Lester Adler, 1944-47; and Oscar Geisel, 1947-49.

### PLEASANT VIEW

This church was organized as a separate congregation on August 12, 1913, from the territory of the Sugar Creek (Tunker) church. It is located five miles south of South Whitley and was built in 1902, often called the West Sugar Creek house.

The church elected J. H. Wright as their first elder. He was followed by J. Henry Neff, 1914; J. A. Snell 1915-25 and 1931-35; A. R. Eikenberry, 1925-29 and 1930-31; R. C. Wenger, 1929-30; H. H. Helman, 1935-38; Edward Kintner, 1938-42 and 1945-49; W. C. Stinebaugh, 1942-44; and V. F. Schwalm, 1944-45.

Pastors who have served have been A. R. Eikenberry, 1925-29; R. C. Wenger, 1929-31; H. H. Helman, 1935-37; Roger Shively, 1943-45; Paul S. Bowman, 1945-46; William Eberly, 1946-47; and David Ockerman since 1947.

Ministers elected since 1913 have been Harry Fields, 1915; Clarence Gilmer, 1921; Noble Bollinger, 1921; Roy Gilmer, 1935; and Opal Pence, 1946.

Elders elected since 1913 have been L. U. Kreider, 1915; J. A. Snell, 1916 (advanced in 1915).

At the time of the organization of the church in 1913, Harvey Arnett was elected deacon. Other deacons elected have been Noah Kreider, 1916; Harvey Kreider, 1916; Shirley Lepley, Herbert Gilmer, Preston Gregory, and Harvey Shank, 1946.

The following have served as superintendent of the Sunday school: Noah Kreider, 1913, 1916, 1919, and 1924-25; Curtis Cripe, 1914; Roy



Wine, 1915; Clarence Metzger, 1917-18, 1929-1931; Lee Felterhoff, 1920-21; Ed Kendall, 1922-23; Shirley Lepley, 1926-28, 1932-33, 1935-36; Oma Kreider, 1934, 1937; Herbert Gilmer, 1938-40; Dale Reiff, 1941-43; Preston Gregory, 1944 to 1951.

The Reelhorn school house, adjoining the church property, was purchased for the use of the church about twenty years ago. Somewhat later the church house was improved by adding a vestibule and other changes. In 1950 a 40 a. farm was purchased and the house remodeled for a parsonage. The church has a present membership of 117.

### PORTLAND

The Portland congregation was formerly known as Bear Creek. Three sisters, Amanda Garber, Margaret Andrews, and Annie Petry (their husbands were not members then) called for preaching services and soon several men including George Siler, Henry P. Wehrly, Thomas Wenrick, Jacob Miller, and George Petry were preaching and baptizing converts.

The growth was slow but healthful. At one time the membership numbered eighty. The membership was scattered, especially to the north where Blue Creek church was organized. The house in Portland was built. It was dedicated in 1891, by Elder S. W. Hoover of Dayton, Ohio. The District Conference was held here in 1897.

The following have been called to the ministry in this church: Daniel Waltz, Eli Renner, Henry P. Garber, Ezra Neher, William Barrick, Lewis Oaks, John E. Stoner and Raymond E. McClung (licensed first in 1945). In 1922 Bro. William Tinkle was ordained to the eldership. During the earlier days of the church elders in charge were Thomas Wenrick, Daniel Waltz, Samuel Neher, W. K. Simmons, D. M. Byerly, and W. L. Hatcher. The church was administered by the District Mission Board for several years. Some of the elders in charge who are listed here were working under the direction of the board.

Beginning in 1916 the elders in charge have been D. M. Byerly, 1916-18, 1922-24, 1930-37; J. G. Stinebaugh, 1919-20; J. W. Norris, 1921-22; John Kline, 1924-25; J. A. Snell, 1925-29; J. O. Winger, 1929; William Tinkle, 1937-39; T. A. Shively 1939-43; Theodore Eley, 1943-45; Edward Kintner, 1945-.

The first regular pastoral arrangement seems to have been that of B. D. Hirt, 1916 to about 1919. Then various ministers supplied till 1921 or 1922, when William Tinkle served as pastor for about two years. For four years, 1925-29, J. S. Zigler served as pastor for both Hickory Grove and Portland. An elderly minister, Jacob Heller, who lived in the congregation filled many appointments when the church was without a minister. He even preached after he became blind. It



seems that the next regular pastor was Theodore Eley who served on a part time basis for a number of years. Beginning about 1942 with Ross Noffsinger, student pastors from Manchester served either for a summer or during the year. Otis Landis, 1943; Herbert Fisher, 1944; William Eberly, about 1945 or 1946; and John Metzler, 1945. Since 1945 Raymond E. McClung, a local man, has served the church on a part time basis.

Earlier deacons were Joe Hanna, Eli Renner, Henry P. Garber, Moses Burkett, Christian Blocher, Lewis Oaks, Michael Blocher, and W. R. LaFollette. In 1922 John Parsons, Paul Burgess, and H. R. Franks were elected. In 1939 Raymond E. McClung and Leonard Boyd were elected.

Two great pioneer leaders in this church were Henry P. Garber and wife, Amanda Garber. He joined the church somewhat late but was soon called to the ministry. From 1885 to his death in 1901, Bro. Garber was the leader of the church. The faithful wife passed away in 1908.

The present membership is fifty-two.

### ROANN

This church was originally a part of the territory of the Mexico church. Preaching was done by William Moss, George Brower, and Jonathan Swihart. Many joined as a result of their powerful preaching; others moved in. Some of those from Virginia included Daniel Barnhart, Daniel Showalter, David Neff and Martin Winger.

The church was organized in 1855 with about ninety members, Matthias Myers, Daniel Barnhart, and Daniel Showalter being the first ministers. Daniel Barnhart later moved to Appanoose, Kansas, where he joined the Old Orders. Daniel Showalter died here in 1863. In 1864 a meeting house was built across the river from the town of Roann and was known as Squirrel Creek church, from a little tributary of Eel River. The Brethren had a hard time financially during the war, paying their exemptions, so the building of the church was somewhat delayed. This house was used for many years but was sold about 1920 and has since burned down. The congregation bought a Presbyterian house, not then in use for one thousand dollars but remodeling added eight times that amount to the cost. It stands at the south edge of Roann. It was dedicated by V. F. Schwalm, Sept. 25, 1921. The debt was not fully paid till 1940 when the mortgage was burned. A parsonage was purchased in 1950 and fully paid for by 1951.

David Neff was elected deacon in 1861, called to the ministry in 1865, and ordained in 1872. His cousin, Benjamin Neff, and John Wagoner were elected in 1868 and Isaac Deardorff and David Swihart in 1872. In the seventies Elder Jesse Myers moved into the territory



from Iowa. He was very able and served many years. Some of the early deacons were Shelby Arthur, John White, Alexander Abshire, J. T. Jenkins, Joseph John, Solomon Eikenberry, Abraham Landis, John Deardorf, Henry Neff, Isaac Bowman, James Zook, and George Deardorf. In 1881 there were 150 members. Very few left with the Old Orders but some went with the Progressives.

In 1882 the name of the church was officially changed from Squirrel Creek to Roann. About this time Aaron Moss moved in from Somerset and Morris Dillman was a minister here about the same time. In 1896 three men were elected to the ministry: George E. Swihart, J. Henry Neff, and Robert Miller. The last named asked to be relieved of the ministry and J. H. Neff moved into the Sugar Creek church in 1898 where he died in 1916. George E. Swihart (d. 1942) was ordained in 1904 and was in charge of the Roann congregation till 1915, with the exception of one year when J. D. Rife was elder. Jonathan Cripe was called to the ministry in 1902.

Many ministers have moved into the congregation in the past thirty years or more. I. E. Warren (d. 1928) from Beaverdam, was ordained in 1908. He operated a store and later a printing office. D. H. Weaver and Robert E. Burger both lived here a short time. The latter died in South Bend, 1929. J. D. Rife, an elder, came from Somerset and lived here for many years till his death, 1929. Abraham Miller, minister, lived here a year, coming from North Dakota. C. C. Miller moved here in 1908 from Ohio and is now the oldest minister in the church. He served fourteen years as superintendent of the Sunday school; he has worked in the free ministry over 25 years and has represented the church at many Annual and District meetings.

The elders in charge of the church since 1917 are as follows: Irvin Fisher, 1917; J. D. Rife, 1918-19; I. B. Book, 1920; C. F. Eiler, 1921; District Mission Board, 1922-23; S. L. Cover, 1924; J. O. Winger, 1925-26; Edward Kintner, 1927-42; Charles R. Oberlin, 1943-46; T. A. Shively, 1947-48; T. G. Weaver, 1949-50; Robert Sink, 1950-51.

Bro. S. L. Cover, and wife, labored here from about 1922 to 1926 as the first pastors of the church. When they went to Pleasant Dale, Edward Kintner, and wife, labored as part-time pastors for about ten years. Mary Cook served from 1938 to 1940 when her health failed. Bruce Flory and wife, from Bethany Seminary, served 1940-42 on a part-time basis. He moved to Florida and was followed by Ernest Bowman and wife, from Manchester College, who served while in school and after, leaving for Virden, Ill. in 1949. William Eberly, a teacher at Laketon high school, has taken up the work.

This church is the home of Ralph and Tressie Heeter Hoffman (minister 1937, elder 1946). They have served the Cart Creek church and in many other capacities. Roy Mishler (killed, 1923, in auto ac-



cident), an able minister, lived here two years. He was the son-in-law of George E. Swihart. His son, John Mishler, was licensed in 1945 and served West Eel River and Buffalo churches till 1951. J. E. Morphew, minister, lived here from 1925 till his death in 1940, a faithful minister.

Deacons not already noted above, were Joseph Heeter (d. 1930), Ira Seitner (died at North Manchester, 1947), Harvey Weller (d. in N. Manchester, 1947), Enos Swihart (d. in N. Manchester, 1947), Levi Eikenberry, Charles H. Bunyan, William H. Fairburn, Walter Gibbs, and John Hollenberg. Present deacons are Clarence Gibbs, Roy Duncan, Clarence Pulley, W. E. Rife (son of J. D. Rife), W. W. Musselman, and Harold Musselman, 1950.

Sunday school superintendents have been W. H. Fairburn, 3 years; Robert E. Burger, 2 years; Sarah Seitner and Della Figert, each 6 mo.; Roy Mishler, one year, Ray Figert, 3 years; W. W. Musselman, one year; Ralph Hoffman, 8 years; John Mishler, 4 years; Ralph Eiler, 2 years; John Hollenberg one and a half years; Marion Hoppes; C. C. Miller, 14 years. Galen Eiler is superintendent in 1951.

At the present time the oldest member is Mary Heeter. The membership now is 117.

### SALAMONIE

The Salamonie congregation originally included all of the southern half of Huntington and part of Wells County, the territory now comprising Salamonie, Andrews, Markle, Prairie Creek, Loon Creek and part of Huntington City churches.

As early as 1836 a Daniel Hardman family settled on what is the I. L. Shultz farm 1½ miles north of Lancaster (at that time called River Post Office). Hardman was the grandfather of Clara Zook and Grace Crull. He soon returned to Wayne County. His brother David, a well-educated and forceful minister lived here for a short while but also moved to Wayne County. Others came to settle here so that in 1845 when they organized a church there were eighteen charter members. Some of these early members were Jacob Shively, James Kline, Gideon Lantis, Samuel Wolfe, David Funderburg, Benjamin Ream, Jonathan Hardman, George Paul, Charles Shideler, John Kinsey, David Caylor, Christian Heaston, Jacob Heaston, Solomon Shideler, Jacob Minnich, Henry Huffman and Daniel Hartsough, family names long since common in the community.

Services and communions were held in the houses and barns, till a house was built in the present town of Lancaster in 1868, a building 60 x 80. The pulpit was then between two doors on the north side and was quite long with a bench for the ministers behind it. In 1943 the I. L. Shultz property was purchased and dedicated as a parsonage.



Two years later the centennial anniversary of the church was observed. The building has undergone several major improvements, the last being in 1948 which will afford a fine modern basement and a new entrance on the north side of the church. The church grounds have been beautified and now constitute a small park.

David Shoemaker, Nicholas Frantz, John Bowman, and Samuel Murray (moved in 1864, elder of church 1866) seem to have been the elders in that order to 1890, the last serving twenty-two years and greatly building up the church.

Other early ministers were: Jacob Funderburg, (moved to North Manchester), Daniel Hartsough (moved to Ohio), Daniel Smith, called, 1857, advanced, 1859 (moved to Wayne County later), John Ulrich, Samuel Funderburg, Daniel Shideler (1867), Moses Calvin (1867), John Eikenberry, George W. Jewett and Henry Wike (1874). Brethren Shideler and Wike were ordained to the eldership and had oversight of the church from 1890 to 1912, except for periods under Elder Aaron Moss and Elder O. C. Ellis (who moved from Antioch in 1887). John Eikenberry became blind and lived past 93.

Later ministers called were Daniel Paul, William Ulrich, Loring Moss, Lawrence Shultz, and Noah Shideler. Most of these moved into other fields as pastors or teachers. L. W. Shultz spent many years at Manchester and has more recently directed the great progress of Camp Mack near Milford. Lawrence Goodmiller was elected to the ministry, 1918.

More recently, the church licensed Vernon Stinebaugh (1942) and Edward Hollenberg (1945). Pearl Eckman moved into the congregation as a licensed minister. No ordinations of elders were reported for the past thirty years. Since 1912, the elders in charge have been J. W. Norris, 1914-18; D. W. Paul, 1918-1922; H. L. Hartsough, 1922-25; William Ulrich, 1925-30; I. J. Kreider, 1930-33; W. C. Stinebaugh, 1933-40; I. E. Weaver, 1940-.

Pastors have been the following: J. W. Norris, 1916-19; Eli Heestand, 1919-20; H. L. Hartsough, 1920-25; Earl Breon, 1925-26; Ray O. Shank, 1929-30; I. J. Kreider, 1930-33 (died suddenly, 1933); W. C. Stinebaugh, 1933-44; F. M. Hollenberg, 1944-45; E. Paul Weaver, 1945-51; Don Holsopple, 1951—.

The following have served as deacons: R. A. Adams, David Burket, David Caylor, George Click, Jacob Dewalt, Jacob Eckman, David Graham, Jonathan Hardman, Charles Heaston, Henry Heaston, Jacob Heaston, Levi Hoover, William H. Paul, Elias Shideler, Jacob H. Shideler, David Shultz, Isaac Shultz, Jacob Ulrich, Joseph Ulrich, Levi Ulrich, Alva Winebrenner, William Wise, Oscar Crull, Paul Heaston, Wilbert Heaston, Donald Stroup, Paul Weaver, Herman Wiley, Hampton Zook.



The first Sunday school was held in Stringtown in 1866, with Andrew Klepser as superintendent and Abraham Heiney as secretary. Sixty were enrolled the first three months. Fifty members of the school soon united with the church. At the church house, Sunday school was started in 1869 with Andrew Snoeberger in charge. Others who have served as superintendents are: Abraham Heiney, Jacob Ulrich, David Graham, John Ellis, O. C. Ellis, David Burket (all before 1890); Anna Ulrich, Jene Burket, William Ulrich, William Paul, Hampton Zook (all before 1912); Hampton Zook, L. W. Shultz, Harry Priddy, Henry Heaston, Paul Weaver, and Carl Shellenbarger, since 1912.

The territory of this church was divided in 1852 to form the Markle congregation; in 1855, Antioch, and in 1861, Prairie Creek. Much later Loon Creek was separated on the east, 1913. Officially, Huntington city was a part of Clear Creek till 1899 but part of its territory had been a part of Salamonie. The present membership of the Salamonie church is 227. This church has had strong pastoral and lay leadership and is continuing this tradition under the present leaders.

### **SOUTH WHITLEY**

The South Whitley Church had its origin in a meeting in 1913 in the Coombs Building. Assembled there were members who lived in South Whitley but held membership in Sugar Creek, Pleasant View, or Spring Creek congregations. They decided to hold services of their own and the effort met with an encouraging response. Soon there was talk of a church house and it seems that in about 1916 a dwelling house and lot, the present site of the church, was purchased. In the District Meeting minutes for 1920 it states that the mission board had purchased property in South Whitley. Apparently this represented an assumption of the obligation for this property and the church house soon to be built. They also held the deed till the indebtedness was finally paid, 1946.

The new building was started in 1922 and completed and dedicated in December, 1923, with Otho Winger preaching the dedicatory sermon. The church is in the business section, less than a block from the main street. It was reported in District Meeting in 1924 that the church cost \$10,250 and was about half paid for at that time.

A rather extensive improvement program was carried out from 1926 to 1928, including a balcony, affording Sunday school classrooms. With the depression and other troubles there was serious consideration of closing the church in 1931 but, fortunately, this step was not taken. Since then the church has grown, paid their debt on the house, and are completely self-supporting. Later improvements have been



made, sponsored largely by a very active Sisters' Aid group.

Ministers who have labored here in the free ministry (mostly non-resident) have been George Mishler, Ray Zook, Russell Wenger, R. H. Miller, L. U. Kreider, Frank Weimer, Robert Sink, Mary Cook, Gilbert George, and H. H. Helman. The elders in charge have been George Mishler, J. W. Norris, J. O. Winger, Edward Kintner, Elmer Gilbert, 1948-1950, and A. F. Morris, 1950-. From 1922 to 1924 Ray Zook served as a part-time pastor, while he was in college at Manchester.

Since 1930 the following have served as pastors: Mark Cripe, 1930-35; Paul Kendall, 1935-42; Leo Miller, 1942-44; Byron Miller, 1944-48; and Vernon Stinebaugh, 1948-.

In 1922 Arthur Morris was installed into the ministry and Garland Borden in 1943. Paul Kendall was ordained to the eldership here in 1941.

The following have served as deacons: Albert Haller, William Spitler, William Joy, George Baker, Emmit Haynes, J. Homer Studebaker (1941) and Byron Hollinger (1941). The following have served as superintendents of the Sunday school: Walter McConnell, Frank Huffman, Cyrus Senger, Letha Striggle, J. Homer Studebaker, Firmer Snyder (1945), Ernest Hartsough, 1946-49, Loren Metzger, 1949-.

This church has come up through many discouragements and trials and owes its existence to those who would not give up. The present membership is one hundred twenty and is under the able care of Vernon Stinebaugh, a teacher of music in Manchester, son of W. C. Stinebaugh, and grandson of J. G. Stinebaugh.

### **SPRING CREEK**

This church was originally a part of the territory of Eel River and was separated March 26, 1870, when Spring Creek was organized at a meeting in the home of Levi Fox. It was located to the north of Plunge Creek, in both Whitley and Kosciusko counties. The first preacher in this area was probably Elder Isaac Lawshe, who lived south of Pierceton at the time of his death, 1865. Jacob Metzger and John Knisley also preached here by appointment.

Levi Workman was the first resident elder and Jonas Umbaugh and Norman Workman were ministers. The first council chose four deacons. Samuel Bowman, John Shriver, Levi Fox, and Jacob Snell (called to the ministry the following year). The two Workman ministers moved to Iowa.

In 1872 Jonas Umbaugh (died 1885) was ordained to the eldership, Jacob Snell advanced, and Emanuel Brumbaugh and Jeremiah Flickinger were elected deacons. Peter Bolinger, deacon, moved in



and later, 1879, Ezekiel and Daniel Miller were elected deacons and D. H. Connell was elected to the ministry about the same time.

In 1880 the church was doing well, with 100 members. The divisions of the 80's affected this group very little. A characteristic of this church was the interest in missions and Sunday schools. On April 22, 1879 they held a meeting of the district in the interest of these causes.

Since 1880 the following have been called to the ministry: Daniel Snell, 1885; Amos Ross, 1899; Ira Mishler, 1900 (advanced 1902); George Snell, 1904 (advanced 1905); Leo Miller, 1913; Byron Miller (licensed, 1940, ordained to ministry, 1943); and Hubert Newcomer, licensed, 1946. Ministers who moved in have been James Norris (ordained here, about 1909); John Mishler, ordained at Ross-ville, returned here, 1908, died, 1914); Chester Brallier (ordained about 1909); and George Mishler (ordained previous to 1916). Trude Mishler Irvin was a minister here from 1917 to 1927. Deacons elected, 1885-1913 were as follows: Robert Ross, George Hardman, and Lewis Mishler, 1885; Aaron Mishler, John Ross, and Isaac Connell, all in 1889; Willard Radcliffe, 1900; Frank Hardman, Clyde Rusher, and Floyd Rife, 1913. In 1890 deacons John S. Ulrey and Frank Leslie moved in.

Levi Workman was presiding elder from 1870 to 1872, when he moved away; Jonas Umbaugh, 1872-1885; Jeremiah Gump and Samuel Leckrone, joint charge for a short time, followed by Jacob Snell (apparently ordained in or about 1885) who served till 1896; Daniel Snell, 1896-1909; John Mishler, 1909-1913; C. A. Brallier, 1913-15; William Overholser, 1915-16; George Mishler, 1916-1920; George Snell, 1920-1922; J. A. Snell, 1922-25; Moyne Landis, 1925-44; Edward Kintner, 1944-50; Howard J. Kreider, 1950-.

Many of the above ministers served long periods as free ministers for there was no regular pastoral arrangement till 1918. It is a pleasure to record the long and able pastorate of Moyne Landis, 1918-1944. He was followed by Leonard Custer, till 1950 when James Tyler became pastor. Carroll Petry is pastor, 1951.

Sunday school Superintendents have been: Lewis Workman, 1892-1895; Daniel Snell, 1895-97; John Ross, 1897-99, 1902-04, 1905-07; Daniel Snell, 1899-1902; J. W. Norris, part of 1902, 1907-09; Ira Mishler, part of 1905; John Mowan, part of 1907; Frank Hardman, 1909-1917; 1920-21, 1923-27; Floyd Newcomer, 1918-20; Levi Eberly, 1922-23; George Wirth, 1927-29; Walter Warner, 1929-34, 1935-41; 1942-45, 1947-48; Walter McConnell, 1934-35; Wilbur Rusher, 1941-42; Hubert Newcomer, 1945-47; James Miller, 1948.

Amos W. Ross, son of Robert Ross, and called to the ministry in this church, served on the India Mission field from 1914 to



1922. Elmer and Fern Baldwin, missionaries in Africa, supported since 1944 by this church, have accepted the invitation of the church to become members and have placed their letters with this congregation.

Deacons elected in 1922 were E. P. Tridle, Walter Swartz, Floyd Newcomer, Lee Mishler, and Elmer Ross; in 1946, Donald Swartz, Walter Kiser, and Walter Warner.

Mrs. Frank (Nancy) Hardman, a charter member of the Aid Society, passed away Feb. 22, 1950. Elder George Snell died Dec. 30, 1950.

The first church house was built by this congregation in 1871, about two and a half miles northeast of Sidney. It was 40 x 60, with a basement. In 1900 and 1907 additions and repairs were made. Ten years later, February, 1917, it was completely destroyed by fire. A new house on the same site was completed by November 1917, and Otho Winger preached the dedicatory sermon on the 11th. Recently, 1950, extensive improvements were made.

The Sunday school records only go back to 1892 but one member now deceased (Sister Hardman) had a prize given her for memory verses in Sunday school in 1876, so it must have begun shortly before that date.

In 1880 it was agreed, upon petition by Jeremiah Flickinger and others, that a church house should be erected three miles north of South Whitley. Flickinger, Jacob Snell and Peter Bolinger were the building committee. Later many moved away from this community and services were discontinued, 1895, and the building sold, 1897.

The present congregation numbers 181 members.

### **SUGAR CREEK**

The Sugar Creek church was organized in 1850 with David Shoemaker as elder and Joseph Hardman an assisting minister. John Mishler, Jacob Metz, Frederick Weybright, and Reuben Long were the deacons. In 1861 a love feast was held in Jacob Metz's barn and twelve were baptized following this meeting. The next presiding elder was Ira Calvert. It was under his direction that the congregation built a large brick house in the village of Tunker, five miles south east of South Whitley, 1867. This house is standing in good condition today. In 1946 the interior was redecorated and rearranged and a re-dedicatory service was held with Elder J. A. Snell bringing the message, the last Sunday of June. In March, 1948, the roof was largely torn off by a storm but it was repaired and put in first class condition again.

David Kreider had been called to the ministry shortly before the church was built and was ordained to the eldership in 1867 and placed



in charge of the church immediately, a responsibility he held till he died April 28, 1909. Other ministers assisting in the work during these years were David Bear, Ozias Metz, ministers, and David Arnett, George Kreider, Jacob Weybright, Joseph Obenchain, Yilson Denick, Joseph Kreider, Peter Ginder, deacons. In 1878 Rudolph B. Bollinger was called to the ministry, and to the eldership in 1901. In 1891 Joseph Arnett and Jefferson Henline were chosen to the deacon's office. B. F. Emley was called to the ministry in 1898 and Isaac B. Bollinger to the deacon's office. In 1901 L. U. Kreider was elected to the ministry. David Reiff and Lewis Mishler, deacons, moved in about 1907. Roy Wine was elected deacon in 1913.

In 1902 the church built another house, five miles south of South Whitley, the Pleasant View church since 1913, but then known as the West Sugar Creek house.

In 1904 Isaac B. Bollinger was called to the ministry and ordained to the eldership in 1908. After the death of Elder David Kreider in 1909 he was made presiding elder but lived only a few years. In 1906 J. A. Snell was called to the ministry and Harvey Kreider to the deacon's office. Henry Mishler, a deacon, moved in about this time. In 1911 J. Henry Neff who lived here 1903-5, moved out, and later returned, was ordained to the eldership and given the oversight of the church. With the division of territory, 1913, he remained in charge of the Sugar Creek Church. B. F. Emley was ordained just after the division and became the presiding elder in 1916.

Between 1909 and 1916 four elders passed away: David Kreider, Rudolph and Isaac Bollinger, and J. Henry Neff (May 4, 1916). The elders in charge since 1916 are as follows: B. F. Emley, 1916-19; I. B. Wike, 1919-22; C. C. Kindy, 1922-24; V. F. Schwalm, 1924-27; J. Edson Ulrey, 1927-29; L. U. Kreider, 1929-33 and 1938-40; George Deaton, 1933-38; Leo H. Miller, 1940-41; J. A. Snell, 1941 to his death in 1951, when A. F. Morris was chosen.

Pastors have been as follows: H. E. Swihart, 1922-23; Lloyd Blickenstaff, 1923-25; Russell Stout, short time, 1928; (Samuel?) Mohler, part of 1928; George Deaton, 1929-33; Garland Borden 1944-47; Orvin Kilmer, 1947-48; Richard Knarr, 1949—. Men who have supplied here are J. A. Snell, Paul Milam, Frank Mulligan, Ira Kreider, and others.

**Spring Creek**

**Upper Deer Creek**

**Wabash (Country)**

**Sugar Creek**

**Wabash (City)**

**West Eel River**

**West Manchester**







Sunday school superintendents since 1916 have included the following: Roy Wine, William Monahan, Orilla Bollinger, Harry Bollinger, Perry Yoder, Harry Yoder, Harvey Arnett, Keith Ross, Edith Monahan, Ida Dimmock, Robert Arnett, Malinda Bruch, Cloe Ott, and Richard Kreider.

The work at this place flourished for many years and then was less vigorous for a while but it has lately taken on new life. At present the membership numbers seventy-seven.

### UPPER DEER CREEK

The Upper Deer Creek church was formerly a part of the Lower Deer Creek organization. It was organized September 1, 1854, by David Wise and Henry Metzger, elders of Lower Deer Creek, in the barn of Jacob Smith, in Deer Creek Township, Cass County, Indiana. The charter members were Jacob Smith and wife, Samuel Cripe and wife, John Mummert and wife, Isaac Cripe and wife, John Studebaker and wife and George Countryman. Services were held in private houses, barns, and schoolhouses until 1870, when a frame church, 40 x 60, was erected. This house, the largest building of its kind in that township, was located five miles south and three miles west of Walton.

On the day of the organization, John Studebaker, who had been elected at Mississinewa, was advanced. The church has called the following brethren to the ministry: Isaac Cripe, 1855, moved out in 1858; Abraham Rinehart, 1863, moved out 1879; Daniel Cripe, 1870, died 1872; Jacob Cripe, 1872; W. S. Toney, 1875, died 1911; Samuel Bechtelheimer, moved in, 1883, moved out in 1885; Boyd Bechtelheimer, 1906. Elder David Bechtelheimer lived in the congregation from 1893 until his death in 1896. Elders in charge have been as follows: David Wise and Henry Metzger, 1854 to 1870; Abraham Rinehart, 1870 to 1883; Jacob Cripe, 1883 to 1916. Brother Cripe's service as presiding elder for thirty-three years has few equals for the length of time served. He was much respected by his people. The membership in 1916 was about sixty-five and in 1949 it stood at fifty-one.

There has been a flourishing Sunday School since 1875, when W. S. Toney was the first superintendent. Later superintendents have been Frank Burrous, Milton Bechtelheimer, John Smith and Grace Walker.

Elders who have served since the long tenure of Jacob Cripe (1883-1916, died 1932) have been Charles Oberlin, Ira Kreider, J. G. Stinebaugh, T. D. Butterbaugh, all from 1916 to 1922. In 1922 Irvin Fisher was elected and served to 1926; Harley Fisher, 1926-1928; L. L. Paul, most of the time, 1928-1945; Robert Sink, Clarence



Sink, and Milo Huffman, since 1945. In 1922 Harvey Wolfe was elected and installed into the ministry.

Other ministers who served the church were James Hunter, L. E. Ockerman, B. F. Petry, Otto Larsen, Forrest P. Hostetler and the present minister, Ellis Angle. Many evangelistic meetings were held through the years by a long list of ministers.

The original house was remodeled in 1892 and about 1916-17 it was moved and turned to face the south. A basement was also added. In 1946 and 1947 further improvements were made, including a new rostrum, two Sunday School rooms and a new furnace. In February, 1950, a fire caused considerable damage but the house was repaired and in use again about two months later.

### **WABASH (City)**

The first council meeting of this church was held at the home of Thomas Circle, July 3, 1913. They appointed a committee to secure a site for a tent meeting. It was secured and Brethren D. M. Byerly and J. W. Norris held the meeting with thirteen baptisms and four reclaimed.

At first services were held in the Masonic Temple, then in a room on East Canal Street, and still later above Case's Bakery, at Hill and Wabash streets. In 1920 the present building was purchased, the first service held there being on March 7. In 1937 it was remodeled and rededicated. In 1941 a parsonage was purchased and remodeled in 1947. In 1948 a property adjacent to the church was purchased to be used as a parish house.

This church was under the Mission Board's direction from 1913 to 1944. Elders who served here: J. W. Norris, 1913-15, part of 1922, 1924-25; S. S. Blough, 1915-18; C. C. Weimer, 1918; George Swihart, 1919-22; Ira Kreider, part of 1922; Edward Kintner, 1922-23; Amsey Snell, 1923-24, 1929-30; Perry Coblentz, 1925-29; J. O. Winger, 1929-30, 1937-38; Charles R. Oberlin, 1930-35, 1942-44; Roy Teach, 1935-37; George Deaton, 1938-40; Elmer Gilbert, 1940-42; and T. G. Weaver, 1944-1949; Charles R. Oberlin, 1949-.

The first pastor was William Detrick, a teacher in the Wabash High School, 1916. Others followed: C. C. Weimer, 1917-20; George Swihart, 1920-21; Roy Mishler, 1921-23; J. J. Cook, 1923-25; H. H. Helman, 1925-26; Leroy Fish, 1926-1929; John Smeltzer, 1929-43; James Renz, 1943-44; Paul Fike, 1944-47; Grant E. Weaver, 1947-49; W. C. Stinebaugh, 1949.

This church has licensed the following to preach: Eli Gascho, Glen Rohrer, and Dean Rohrer, all in 1943; Gale Crumrine, 1945 (installed, 1950).

The following have been elected deacons: Dorsey Brubaker and



Charles Circle, 1914; Glenn Weimer and Charles DeLauter, 1920; Perry Cozad and Roy Crull, 1926; Cecil Lehman, 1928; Carl McCombs, 1932; John Patton, Leon DeLauter, and Irvin Custer, 1948.

The following have served as superintendent of the Sunday school: Dorsey Brubaker, 1913-20, 1921-22, 1925-27; Charles DeLauter, 1920-21; Noah Buckingham, 1922-24; Charles Circle, 1924-25; Roy Crull, 1927-28, 1947-48; Cecil Lehman, 1928-29; Harry York, 1929-31; Carl McCombs, 1931-34; Wilford Crumrine, 1934-38, 1940-44; Roy Gump, 1938-40; 1944-45; Floyd Mullinix, 1945-47, Irvin Custer, 1948-

The present membership is 142.

### **WABASH (Country)**

In 1859 the Wabash church (later called Wabash Country to avoid confusion with Wabash City church) was organized with forty members and consisted of the Somerset territory which lay north of the Mississinewa River and south of the Wabash.

Just before this event, Elder John Crumrine moved here from Darke County, Ohio, and became the first presiding elder, which position he held till he died in 1884. His two sons, Jacob and Noah were both ministers. Jacob, much interested in missions died from exposure in the course of his mission work, 1890. Noah was elder of the church for some years and died at a ripe old age in 1916.

For some years the church was quite prosperous. In 1881 there were 120 members. Elder D. S. Caylor lived here a number of years. Ellis Brubaker was called to the ministry in 1888, ordained in 1898, and succeeded Noah Crumrine as elder. W. L. Pulley was elected to the ministry in 1893 and John Frantz in 1898. The former moved out and died in 1897 in North Dakota.

In 1870 a church house was built seven miles south of Wabash. It was damaged by tornadoes in 1879 and 1916. The first Sunday school was organized in 1879 with S. M. Aukerman as superintendent. Some of the deacons here have been: Otis Brubaker, Elias Graybill, John Myers, Henry Brubaker, S. M. Aukerman, M. F. Brubaker, C. C. Arnold, Samuel Brubaker, Samuel Frantz, Henry Anstine, Jonathan Adams, William Anstine, Henry Bollinger, William Harris, Alonzo Crumrine, Ira Tinkle, O. O. Brubaker, O. J. Brubaker, Clarence Pulley, Rex Earlywine, Walter Gibbs, John Pulley, and William Knotts.

The Brubaker family have been prominent in this congregation, beginning with Otis and family who migrated from Darke County, Ohio, 1854. They had thirteen children and left behind a hundred descendants when they died. Elder Ellis and two other sons, Noah and Arthur, were ministers, the last two in the West. Ellis Brubaker



married Mary Moore, daughter of William Moore, an early preacher here.

John Frantz was ordained sometime after 1898 and succeeded Elder Ellis Brubaker some years later. He served till 1944, being succeeded by J. Edward Smith, ordained here. Other ministers who have served here were Elzie Weimer and Obed Rife. The church is under the care of J. Edward Smith, pastor and elder.

This is the home church of Mary Blickenstaff, wife of Lynn and mother of Leonard, all missionaries to India.

Sunday school superintendents have been William Livengood, William Hawes, O. O. Brubaker (for many years), Reta Owens, Harry Crumrine, Lowell Frick, and Harry Shaw.

The neighboring Somerset church was disorganized and consolidated with Wabash, thereafter called Wabash Country, 1929.

As noted elsewhere, a mission church started in Wabash in 1913 and is today the Wabash City church. This church was partly formed out of territory belonging to Wabash Country, south of the Wabash River.

### WEST EEL RIVER

The early history of this congregation is a part of that of the old Eel River church, mother of many congregations, as noted elsewhere. It is an outgrowth of the so-called west house of that congregation built at a rather early date. It was a frame structure built about 1868 and stood on the north side of the road and somewhat east of the present house, built in 1909, two miles east of Silver Lake and three and a half miles west of the Eel River house. The new house, built of cement blocks was dedicated in June, 1910, just after the death of Noah W. Butterbaugh, who so greatly desired to enjoy the use of the new house.

The congregation was organized as a separate church on June 21, 1913, with Samuel Leckrone presiding and the following visiting elders present: J. H. Wright, Daniel Snell, A. C. Young, C. F. Eiler, and George Swihart. (The same year the Beaver Dam Church, to the west, was disorganized.)

Elders ordained in this church were T. D. Butterbaugh, 1913; and Lawrence Goodmiller, 1929. Elders in charge have been George Swihart, 1913-14; J. H. Wright, 1914; Aaron Moss, 1914-15; Emanuel Leckrone, 1915; T. D. Butterbaugh, 1915-19; Abram Miller, 1919-23; George Bridge, 1923; George Mishler, 1923-26; Edward Kintner, 1926-28; Hugh Miller, 1928-35, 1942-47; E. H. Gilbert, 1935-36; Ira Kreider, 1936-42; T. G. Weaver, 1947-49; Leonard Custer, 1949-50; Howard Kreider, 1950-. Others who served in the ministry included L. H. Eby and Raymond Lantis. Supported



pastors included Hugh Miller 1937-38, 1942-46; John Mishler, 1946-48; Jack Kline, 1948-50; and Leonard Custer, 1950-.

Deacons installed were Ray Kline, 1915 (elected 1913); Emery Metzger, 1915; Clifford Weirick, 1938; and Ben Jontz, 1945 (by letter).

The following have served as Sunday school superintendents: Emanuel Leckrone, 1909; T. D. Butterbaugh, 1913; Samuel Myers, 1914; Samuel Perry, 1915 and 1921-22; Emery Metzger, 1916-18, 1923-24, 1928-29; Mahlon Rodes, 1918-20, 1925-28; Ray Kline, 1920-21; 1929-30; Clarence F. Rush, 1922-23; Marie Metzger, 1924-25; Dora Helser, 1930-31, 1935-41; R. T. Heckman, 1931-33; Chester Miller, 1933-35; Erbie Perry, 1942-43, 1944-46; Will Stellar, 1943-44; Eldred Metzger, 1946-48; Otto Baldwin, 1948-50; David Morphew, 1950-.

John Mishler was ordained to the ministry in 1947 and Jack Kline was relicensed in 1949.

This church, under the leadership of Emanuel Leckrone pioneered in opening a Sunday school in 1891. The church has had a long series of revival meetings through the years, including meetings held by Daniel Shively, W. R. Deeter, Daniel Wysong, J. H. Miller, Alex Miller, David Metzler, John Metzler, Sr., J. H. Wright, Jacob Snell, Daniel Snell, D. P. Shively, Moyne Landis, Mary Cook, Edson Ulrey, G. S. Strausbaugh, E. S. Coffman, Hugh Miller, Jesse Whitaker, Brother Hatton, and Joseph Reiff.

The present membership of this church is 98.

### **WEST MANCHESTER**

This congregation was a part of the Manchester church till September, 1911. With the organization of the church Otho Winger was elected elder. Elders in charge since that time have been A. C. Young, 1913-1915; Leslie Cover, 1915; I. B. Book, 1916-1929; Edward Kintner, 1929; J. H. Wright, 1929-1930; A. M. Stine, 1930-1939; T. G. Weaver, 1939-1943 and 1946-50; Otho Winger, 1943-1945; and E. H. Gilbert, 1945-1946, and Leonard Custer, 1950-.

Those who served as ministers were C. F. Eiler, A. R. Bridge, J. P. Dickey, I. B. Book, Aaron Moss, Leslie Cover, George Deardorff, Isaac Deardorff, A. C. Young, S. L. Young, Ira Kreider, A. M. Stine, Bertha Stine, T. D. Butterbaugh, and John Dickey. The following have served as pastors: T. G. Weaver, 1939-1943; David Studebaker, 1943-1946; Kenneth Hollinger, 1946-1948; and Arno Holderread, 1948-.

This church installed Charles Boyer and Austin Eiler to the first degree of the ministry, 1920; and Forrest Weller, 1926. Licensed to the ministry were Lester Young, 1940; Leonard Custer, 1943; and



Wayne Miller, 1947. Wilbur Norris was re-licensed in 1940, having been licensed at West Marion, 1937.

Deacons who were called and served in the earlier days were E. M. Grossnickle, Ephraim Wertenberger, Jacob Miller, Samuel Boyer, H. E. Weller, and Nathaniel Miller. Deacons called later have been Russell Miller and Frank Ulrey since 1937, and Noah Shively, Bruce Young, and Guy Cripe since 1950.

The following have served the church as Sunday school superintendents: in the earlier days, N. E. Miller, John Grossnickle, and I. B. Book; Edith Miller, 1917-39; Leonard Custer, 1939-42 and 1943-44; Glenn Grossnickle, 1942-1943; Bruce Young, 1944-1945; Homer Hoover, 1945-46, and 1948-1949; Wayne Miller, 1946-1948; Earl Traugher, 1949-.

The churchhouse, built in 1891, was rededicated in 1926, with Otho Winger preaching the sermons, morning and afternoon. In 1941 the church celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of the house. The church is located in a beautiful setting on the highway two miles west of North Manchester. Back of the churchyard is Pleasant Hill cemetery, where several well-known leaders of our Brotherhood are buried. Among these are R. H. Miller, Sr.; Otho Winger, and J. Oscar Winger. The present membership is 178.

## DISORGANIZED CHURCHES

### BEAVERDAM

This church was organized about 1856 out of the northern part of the Squirrel Creek (now Roann) church territory. David Bechtelheimer, called to the ministry in 1849 and ordained in 1856, was placed in charge of the church. Associated with him were Samuel Eiler and Noah Heeter. Later Emanuel Leckrone and Samuel Burkett were elected to the ministry. James Warren, Rudolph Hire, Frank Hammond, and Adam Worley were among the early deacons.

A churchhouse was built six miles west and one mile south of Claypool in 1875. In 1881 the membership was 140. The divisions of the 1880's were hard on this church. The church had a long period of struggle and general decline. Samuel Leckrone, from Eel River, was elder for twenty years. Samuel Burkett was ordained in 1898 and died in 1904, after serving the church twenty-five years. I. E. Warren, son of Deacon James Warren, was elected to the ministry in 1894 and advanced in 1898. He later moved to Roann where he was ordained. John Kline was elected in 1901 and was for some time the only minister. He moved to Pleasant Dale.

Under the Mission Board of the district, J. G. Stinebaugh served the church two years. Shortly before the church was disorganized in 1913, the old house was abandoned and another bought.



**HARTFORD CITY**

The early history of this church is given for the Bethel Center church. Hartford had been in the Southern Indiana district and in 1916 a joint committee of the two districts (J. G. Stinebaugh, John B. Bailey, Middle Indiana, and John W. Root and John F. Shoemaker, Southern Indiana) recommended transferring the church to Middle Indiana and combining it with Bethel Center. This committee drew a complete line across the state separating the districts.

In 1922 a revival at Hartford City resulted in thirty-four accessions. Charles Miller was called to the ministry the same year.

In 1924 the District Meeting approved the separation of Hartford City and Bethel Center into two congregations. Two years later a committee of the district reported against disorganizing the Hartford City church at that time. The next year the Mission Board of the district requested the disorganization of this church which was done April 27, 1929. Letters were granted to the members and the Board took over the property.

**KEWANNA**

This congregation included Fulton County territory centering in Kewanna. Elder Daniel Shively of New Paris was the first minister to preach here and the first two members were a Brother and Sister Judy. In 1890 the church was organized with Elder D. P. Shively in charge. There were ten members.

In 1892 a frame house was erected three miles north of Kewanna. Much of the time this church was in the care of the District Mission Board. Elder S. A. Blessing was called to the ministry and later moved to Southern Ohio. Merton Holsinger (died 1912) was ordained here, having moved from Pymont. Later ministers were B. D. Hirt and Roy Mishler. Daniel Hendricks was a faithful deacon for many years. In 1922 Clarence Gilmer was pastor and taught in the Kewanna High School. In 1925 the Mission Board requested a committee to be appointed to disorganize the church. The request was granted and the next year the committee reported that the work was done. Thirty-nine letters were given and most of them went to the Logansport church.

**LANDESSVILLE OR LANDESS**

This congregation was organized in 1860 with twelve members from territory belonging to the Somerset church. John Baker, elected before the division of territory, was the first minister. He lived till 1891 but did not do much preaching, although a good counsellor and was on the Standing Committee one year.

In 1869 Jacob Tinkel was called to the ministry. He was a fine



Christian character and influential in the community. In 1874 a large brick house was built in the town of Landess. Partly destroyed by a storm in 1877, it was rebuilt. Brother Tinkel was ordained in 1879 and was made elder in charge. The church was growing rapidly. Early deacons were Henry Tinkel, William Pulley, Albert Burris, Daniel Tinkel, and Martin Whiteneck. The last two were elected to the ministry but did not serve. Elder Jacob Tinkel died in 1889. Elder J. F. Spitzer, native of Virginia and called to the ministry in the Upper Fall Creek Church, took charge of the church. William Tinkel, son of Jacob, was called to the ministry in 1891 but died the following March. From 1891 to 1898 Aaron Moss served the church as resident minister and was ordained in 1896. In the same year D. B. Garber was elected, while in the employ of Congressman George W. Steele, of Marion. He later moved to Marion. In 1898 J. Andrew Miller, a son-in-law of Jacob Tinkel, was elected. He moved into the Mississinewa church.

Deaths, emigration, and lack of a resident minister seem to have brought a decline but the coming of Elder J. W. Norris from Spring Creek in 1909, marked a revival of interest. The membership rose to nearly 100, including West Marion which was made a separate organization in 1911. Elder Norris moved to Marion, leaving the Landess church without a minister. Later B. F. Kendall, a minister moved in. In 1917 the church was destroyed by fire and the members asked the District Meeting for aid which request was granted.

In 1927 this church asked the District Meeting to take over the church property in trust, furnish some ministerial help and at the end of the year decide as to the disorganization of the church. The next year the Mission Board recommended that the church be disorganized and a committee was appointed to do this. At the 1929 District Meeting it was reported that the church was disorganized and the property was taken over by the board.

### **OAK GROVE OR PALESTINE**

The first member of this church was Sister Susannah Woodling Byroads who was baptized when a girl in Illinois by D. B. Sturgis, later of Northern Indiana. They moved first to Newton County and then to the western part of White County. The Monticello brethren did preaching here and several united with the church. In 1870 a church was organized with 20 members.

For several years the church grew rapidly. Abram Miller moved in from Santa Fe. Jacob Spangle, Thomas Dobbin, G. W. Jewitt, J. H. Mourer, and Sherman Clapper were called to the ministry. The membership reached nearly a hundred at one time. But, the land was poor and swampy. People came and went. Elder Miller joined



the Old Order Brethren and the work declined. Elders Abram Rinehart and W. S. Toney did much to keep the work going. A house was built in 1896, three miles west and one mile north of Reynolds. This was burned in 1912 but immediately replaced by another. Soon after this the work was under the direction of the Mission Board. George Bridge was elder and resident minister. In 1916, David Byroads, a faithful deacon was killed in a runaway accident returning from church services.

In 1918, the church was disorganized and the next year the property was sold for \$500. The money was used to help pay for Logansport's new church. Most of the Oak Grove members were lettered to the Monticello church.

### OGAN'S CREEK

This church, organized in 1873 at the home of a Sister Leslie, was taken from Manchester territory, lying to the southeast of the town, and some from Andrews to the south. Abram Leedy, of Andrews was chosen presiding elder, Samuel Renicker was called to the ministry, and Jonas Warvel, Joshua Hoover, and Daniel Blocher were chosen deacons. Seven adjoining ministers and elders were present: Jacob Metzger, Jacob Karns, Jacob Snell, Jacob Funderburg, Joseph Leedy, Abram Leedy, and Israel Harter. Services were held at the Leslie schoolhouse and the Antioch Christian church till the Brethren built a house in 1876. Samuel Renicker built a church on his own farm and gave it to the church. After some years services at this house were discontinued.

In February, 1875, R. H. Miller and William Manville, of the Christian church held a debate. George W. Cripe held the first series of meetings and preached once a month for some time. Many were gathered in.

A love feast was held in Joseph Leslie's barn on June 10, 1875. At this meeting Peter Wright and Jacob Early were chosen deacons. The former was one of the first settlers here. His son, John H., was called to the ministry at the same time. He had a long and notable ministry. In 1876 he was advanced to the second degree. In 1879 S. S. Ulrey and P. A. Early were called to the ministry, and advanced in 1881, when John H. Wright was ordained by Joseph and Abram Leedy and Jacob Funderburg. In 1882 the membership was 125. Some went with the Progressives, including Perry Early.

Later ministers called were Ira Kreider and Elmer Gilbert. Deacons elected included William Kesler, Hezekiah Grossnickle, Moses Hoover, Joseph Hoover, John Unger, and Everett Paul. Others who served as deacons were Joseph Cart, Zachariah Emrick, and John Brubaker. J. H. Wright was presiding elder from 1882 to 1904.



Then S. S. Ulrey, George Swihart, and Elmer Gilbert had charge.

Many of the large families scattered and the membership declined. Finally the church asked for disorganization and a committee was appointed in 1932. The property was sold for \$398.40 and the 32 members were lettered out to other churches.

### SOMERSET

The territory of this church originally included the south half of Wabash and all of Grant County, including the Wabash churches, Landessville, Marion, and Cart Creek territories.

Elder John Whiteneck, coming from Union County in 1847, located three miles west of Somerset. Financially successful, he was generous in helping others. Although without formal education he had great native ability and preached in many homes and schoolhouses.

In 1850 Elder Isaac Lawshe, also from Union County, moved in. This well educated man and Brother Whiteneck gathered many members, including family names as follows: Crumrine, Haynes, Brubaker, Drook, Winger, Baker, Zook, and Tinkel.

Martin Coble was elected to the ministry 1851. Soon Samuel Zook and Otis Brubaker, deacons, moved in from Darke County, Ohio. Ministers elected were William Minnich, Harrison Hudson, and William Moore.

John Whiteneck was presiding elder till his death in 1868. Brother Lawshe had moved away by that time and had met death by a runaway team, in 1865. William Minnich was elder to 1884. Aaron Moss was elected to the ministry but soon moved to Roann.

In 1859 the Wabash church was organized, including the territory north of the Mississinewa River. In 1860 Landessville was organized. In 1871 the large brick church at Vernon was erected.

Later ministers elected included J. D. Rife, 1881; John Strausburg, Martin Miller, and Isaac Smith; Otho Winger, April 9, 1897; Elza Weimer, 1906; Obed C. Rife, 1908; Roger Winger and William Tinkel, 1913. J. D. Rife was ordained 1899 and moved to Roann; John Strausburg, ordained 1901; Martin Miller, ordained 1905 and died 1914; Elza Weimer and Obed C. Rife were ordained 1913. Other ministers living for a time in this church were D. S. Caylor, W. L. Pulley, and W. L. Hatcher.

Deacons elected at various times were David Stambaugh, Henry Haynes, J. D. Rife, Philip Miller, Valentine Weimer, William Miller, Oscar Lawshe, J. P. Winger, Otho Winger, Newton Wolfe, William Ross, Obed Rife, William Knotts, and M. D. Winger. S. M. Aukerman moved in from Wabash.

In 1914 Cart Creek was organized which divided the membership about evenly. This left Somerset the building at Vernon and about



fifty members. Presiding elders prior to 1916 included D. S. Caylor, J. R. Crumrine, S. S. Ulrey, Amos Kendall, and Ellis Brubaker.

In 1928 the District Meeting appointed a committee to investigate Somerset and disorganize the church if thought advisable. The next year the Wabash and Somerset churches were consolidated and re-named Wabash Country church.

### **WALNUT LEVEL**

This church was sort of a mother of churches in the eastern part of Middle Indiana. Samuel Stump and George W. Studebaker did the first preaching. A house was built in 1867 near Petroleum. The previous year the church had been organized with fourteen members.

In 1876 Samuel Neher, minister from Allen County, Ohio settled here and helped Elder Studebaker, so that the church grew considerably.

Starting with a huge territory of several counties, its area was cut down by the organization of Pleasant Dale, 1889, Hickory Grove, 1882, and Blue Creek, 1887, which was disorganized in 1905. Men who worked here were Lewis Huber, Samuel Fink, Joseph Engle, Daniel Shanks, and I. F. Yaney.

The Walnut Level church was disorganized in 1914 and the territory divided between Pleasant Dale and Hickory Grove. The property was sold for \$249.20.

### **WALTON**

In 1922 it was reported at the District Meeting that W. C. Stinebaugh and George Philips were pastors of a mission church in Walton. A petition from Walton to be organized as a church was presented to the same meeting. This petition was accepted and a delegate seated. In 1926, it was listed among the eight churches under the care of the Mission Board of the district. Warren Heestand followed George Philips as pastor, it was reported in 1926. In 1927 it was reported that W. C. Stinebaugh, teaching at Bunker Hill, was pastor at Walton. In 1930 the Board withdrew support from Walton. The same year the church was disorganized, and of the 77 members 29 had put in their letters in other Brethren congregations.

### **HUNTINGTON (Country)**

This congregation was organized in 1871. Elders Joseph Leedy, George Cripe, Jacob Metzger, and Abraham Leedy were elders in charge. At this meeting R. K. Binkley was called to the ministry; John Altman and Martin Hoke were elected deacons. The same year Alexander Gibler was called to the ministry and Cornelius Henline and Ananias Bonebrake, deacons.



The congregation grew to nearly one hundred and a house was built six miles northwest of Huntington. William Summers was one of the first ministers here. He and others went with the Progressives. The church was considerably weakened by the split.

In 1881, J. C. Murray, minister, moved in from Clear Creek and was ordained in 1883 by Joseph Leedy and J. H. Wright. He soon became the presiding elder till 1889. Then J. H. Wright became elder and continued for over twenty years. Deacons elected were S. S. Bonebrake and Thomas Manning, 1889; Jacob Wike and Emory Miller, 1896; J. E. Hoke and Joseph Lannerd, 1908. In 1906 the church called Grover L. Wine to the ministry. He has had a long and useful career as a pastor.

J. D. Mishler, Ira Kreider, and L. U. Kreider were among the later elders. In 1924 the Huntington Country Church was united with Clear Creek. Of its members, six were lettered to Pleasant View and the rest to Clear Creek, 1925.

### **SANTA FE**

The territory of this church was in the southeast part of Miami County, formerly belonging to the Pipe Creek congregation. Pioneer preachers here were Samuel Murray and Abram Shepler. A separate congregation was formed about 1865 with John E. Shively elder in charge and John P. Wolfe and Abraham Miller, ministers. Early deacons were Isaac Anstine, William Shepler, Jacob Ray (Wray?), George Landgrave, and Jacob Miller. The last-named was the contractor and builder of church house, 1870, two and one-half miles east of Bunker Hill.

The following ministers have been called: Robert Bowman, Terry Jenkins, Joseph Shepler, Jacob Fox, 1878; David Wolfe, 1879; J. S. Bond, 1889; George Sonafrank, 1892; D. W. Hostetler and Amos Kendall, 1897; Forrest P. Hostetler and Sherman Kendall, 1911; Perry Coblentz 1914; and Claude Wolfe, licensed and ordained to the ministry about 1940. He served as a missionary in Ecuador, 1948-51, and is now Physical Education director at Manchester College. Abraham Miller went with the Old Orders. D. W. Hostetler and Robert Bowman both moved away. David Wolfe and Amos Kendall served the church as elders, as did the following later: Silas Fisher, 1916-1920; P. E. Coblentz, pastor and elder, 1920-28, and elder 1930-1940; T. A. Shively, 1928-1930; and Milo Huffman, 1940-1950. In later years, Forrest Hostetler was ordained to the eldership. He and Milo Huffman served a period each as pastor.

Later deacons included William Hostetler, Samuel Miller, Abner Bond, B. F. Jenkins, Arthur Clingenpeel, Albert Lantz, B. F. Har-



tleroad, Peter Lorenz, J. H. Kendall, Omer Wolfe, Herman Landrum, and Fred Hartleroad.

Superintendents of the Sunday School included Miriam Condo, Abner Bohn, Leon and Adrian Clingenpeel.

John P. Wolfe was often reading clerk because of his powerful voice. John E. Shively preached in a broken English, mixed with Dutch. He was a good and a very zealous man.

About 1875 in the southeast part of the territory of this congregation there was built what was known as the Copper Creek house. In 1919 the Santa Fe church asked for a division of the congregation into Santa Fe and Copper Creek. This must have been granted for in 1922 Copper Creek was disorganized and the members divided between Plevna and Santa Fe.

The Santa Fe congregation in 1916 reported about one hundred members. In 1949 the number had shrunk to fifty. The church was disorganized and the property sold in 1950.



## CHAPTER II

### CONGREGATIONS—NORTHERN INDIANA

#### AUBURN (1917)

In 1914 the Will Witts, Howard Ellises and a few other families who were members of the Cedar Creek and Cedar Lake congregations, living in or near Auburn, organized a Sunday School in the home of Brother and Sister Will Witt. The first superintendent was Lottie Ryneanson. After a few months, Bro. Merritt Hanson came over from Cedar Creek to help in the work, and later moved to Auburn where he continued to be a pillar in the work of the church until his death recently.

After the Sunday School was well started the German Methodist Church building and parsonage were rented and later purchased. With the aid of the District Mission Board the purchase was made in 1917 and the final payments were completed in 1928. A basement was added in 1926 and the building has been modernized.

During the first few years most of the preaching was done by David Hoover, John Urey and Amos Budd. After a revival meeting held by Bro. J. W. Kitson in the fall of 1925, the first Love Feast was held in the Merritt Hanson home with Elder David Hoover officiating.

The organization meeting of the congregation was on Aug. 21, 1917 with Elder John Urey presiding. The first regular pastor was Bro. Walter Warstler. He was followed by Clyde C. Cripe, who also served later from, 1928 to 1936. Bro. Walter Gibson served for a few months during 1919. Brethren Jesse and Russell Shull each served a year as student pastors. S. J. Burger, a long-time resident of the English Prairie Church, was pastor from 1922 to 1927. For five years, 1937 to 1942, Sister Goldie Killion, one of the few women ministers of the Brotherhood, served as pastor. William Hamilton served from 1942 to 1946. Since then student ministers from Manchester College have served, first Norman Harsh, and since 1948, Delbert Cook, 1948-50. Opal Pence has served since 1950.

Bro. Clyde C. Cripe is the only minister ordained to the eldership at Auburn, which took place in 1919. His son Mark was licensed to the ministry here in 1932. Charles Imler was licensed in 1937 and installed into the full ministry in 1938.

Few deacons have been elected in the Auburn Church. Sister Joseph Hoover in 1917 and Sister Marion Mahoney in 1919. Others



who served as deacons in the congregation were Joseph Hoover, Claude Hanson, Merritt Hanson, and since 1947, Amos Aschleman, William Graham and A. J. Witt and their wives.

Following Bro. Urey's term as elder, Bro. Frank Kreider served from 1920 to 1927. He was followed by Jesse Gump, Clyde C. Cripe, Russel Sherman, Galen Bowman, Arthur Morris, Kenneth Long, J. S. Flory and Arlo Gump.

The present Sunday School Superintendent is Amos Aschleman. Other superintendents have been William Graham, John Imler, Kenneth Graham, Claude Hanson, and A. J. Witt. Sister Ruth Kennedy has served as church clerk for many years.

The congregation has not had a rapid numerical growth, yet it has promoted an active program and has participated well in the Brotherhood work. The present membership is 80.

### **BAUGO (1868)**

The Baugo Church includes the western part of Elkhart County and the eastern part of St. Joseph County. It was formerly part of the Elkhart (now West Goshen) and the St. Joseph congregations. Quite a nucleus of members lived here when the church was organized in 1868. Joel Shively was their first minister.

In 1870 John Metzler was called to the ministry and ordained in 1883. Since then the church has called to the ministry: H. M. Schwalm in 1882, ordained in 1900; Peter Huffman in 1891, later identified with the Osceola Church; E. J. Swartz in 1898; Eli Heestand in 1899; Christian Metzler, now of Wakarusa, in 1901, ordained in 1908; V. F. Schwalm, now president of Manchester College, in 1908; and Kermit Eby, now of Chicago, Ill., in 1928. Joseph Sala lived here for a time, later moved to Bremen, and finally located in the western states. Harvey S. Bowers moved into the congregation about 1910. He united with the church at Williamstown, Ohio. Was called to the ministry in the Oak Grove Church near North Liberty; was ordained here and has been the presiding elder most of the time since 1922. Earl Nusbaum lived here for a while but later moved to Elkhart. William Brubaker was ordained here and served the church for a number of years.

The first Church house was built in 1878, three miles northwest of Wakarusa. In 1918 it was raised and a basement built, and otherwise remodeled. About 1893 a house was purchased from the Methodist people at the east edge of Osceola, and the north part of the congregation was organized into the Osceola Church. In 1915 the south part of the congregation, including Wakarusa, was organized as a separate congregation, with the membership of 150 being about equally divided



between the two churches. A house had been built in Wakarusa in 1895.

The first Sunday School at Baugo was started in 1895 with Christian Metzler as superintendent. Deacons who have served at Baugo are as follows, with the date of their election: Jacob Ehret and George Anthony, 1884; Christian Metzler and Delbert Markham, 1891; Eli Wenger, 1902; George Cochranower, 1904; David Holmes and Elmer Eby, 1908; Solomon Moyer and Clayton Shriner, 1921; David Wisler and Ralph Brubaker, 1924; Oscar Seese, John Bowers, and Howard Pletcher, 1943.

John Metzler served as presiding elder here for some years; H. M. Schwalm served from 1901 to 1922; Harvey S. Bowers served since then except for a few years that William Brubaker was presiding elder.

The church was always served by a free ministry until the spring of 1948 when Bro. Glenn Kinsel, a student minister at Bethany Biblical Seminary came as a summer pastor. His work was so helpful that the church voted for him to continue, which he did for the next year. Eugene Carper from Pennsylvania, a student minister in Goshen college, began part time pastoral service in Sept. 1949. The present membership of the congregation is 89.

#### **BETHANY (1856 Solomon's Creek 1912)**

The history of this congregation must begin with the Elkhart congregation, now West Goshen. That was organized in 1830 and included all of Elkhart and much of Kosciusko Counties. In 1838 the Turkey Creek congregation was organized. This included the southern part of Elkhart County and the northern part of Kosciusko County. This was through the influence of Elders Henry Neff and John Leatherman. Elder Leatherman was known as "The Horse-back Preacher." The two elders demonstrated the maxims, "A Dunkard's name is as good as his note," and, "Actions speak louder than words." Elder Leatherman died in 1867 and Elder Neff died in the pulpit in 1868. Several of Elder Neff's grandsons still live in this congregation.

The Bethany Church was organized in the home of David Coy, one mile north of Syracuse, Oct. 19, 1856. The territory included what is now New Paris, Syracuse, Bethel, New Salem and North Winona Churches, as well as what is now Bethany. Elders Neff and Leatherman were in charge until their death about ten years later. The first resident elder was Martin Weybright who had as his assistant, Elder Frederick Loehr. The deacons who were charter members were: John Weybright, Joel Rush, and Levi Wyland.

In 1858 Daniel Shively was called to the ministry, serving the



church for 38 years, through much sacrifice since he served through the Civil War period. He was ordained elder in 1878. George W. Cripe was called to the ministry here in 1866, but moved away three years later. Lewis Montz was called to the ministry here and remained about 15 years, when he went with the Progressive branch when it split off. In 1869 Jesse Calvert moved in and remained about nine years. It was under his preaching in a two weeks revival in 1870 that there was an ingathering of fifty members. In 1870 Abram Neff was called to the ministry, serving here about ten years. David Younce moved in, 1875, and served for 20 years. J. H. Warstler was called to the ministry and served faithfully for 37 years. In 1881 Elder W. R. Deeter moved in. He was instrumental in organizing the south part of the congregation into the Bethel Church. He lived in the new congregation. Hiram Forney was elected to the ministry here in 1886 and remained for 13 years. In 1894 William Buzzard, a minister, moved in and served here for 15 years. The next year James Neff was elected to the ministry and served here for more than 20 years. A. E. Clem (to whom we are indebted for much of this information) was elected to the ministry in 1899 and was ordained in 1908. He served as presiding elder for a number of years before his death in 1947. Charles Arnold was called to the ministry in 1901, serving here for 15 years, part of the time as presiding elder. Raleigh Neff was elected in 1908 and Milo Geyer in 1912. Both of them were ordained in 1918 and still serve in the ministry here, both of them were elder in charge for a while. Ralph Rarick was elected to the ministry here in 1914 but remained for only six months. Noble Neff was elected in 1918 but six months later moved to Milford.

A number of deacons have been elected in this congregation, also. James Neff and George Lincofelter were called in 1894, Bro. Neff being called to the ministry the next year; Abe Morehouse, in 1897; John Neff and A. E. Clem in 1898, Bro. Clem also being called to the ministry the next year; J. O. Weybright and J. C. Metz in 1905. The present deacons are: J. O. Weybright, Bert Neff, Jesse Eisenhour, Irvin Neff, Harvey Yoder, Roy Eisenhour, Fred Gall, Lester Hummel and Paul Warstler.

What was probably the first District Meeting of Northern Indiana was held in 1857; it was held in the congregation again in 1895, with the largest attendance recorded up to that time. In 1878 it was decided to use the single mode of feet-washing, which is thought to be the first in Northern Indiana. In 1882 the Annual Conference was held in this congregation, one mile west of the church in a large tent. This conference became famous since this was the time when the Progressive element of the church walked out and organized a separate denomination in a school house west of the conference grounds.



The first Sunday School was organized here in 1871 by Eld. I. L. Berkey, Bro. Joseph Hartsough being the first superintendent. In October 1879 a Sunday School convention was held here, but was not acceptable, so no more were held until 1895.

The first eight years of the organization services were held in barns and peoples' homes. In 1864 the brethren built one of the largest church-houses in Northern Indiana. This was during the Civil War when many of the men were required to pay exemption money to avoid the draft. This made it difficult, but they raised the money and cleared the debt. The house was remodeled in 1901 and again in 1947-49, when a basement was built, furnace installed, class rooms added, and the house modernized, splendid living quarters being made at one end for the pastor.

From the number of men called to the ministry and from her record in giving, it is evident this church has always been missionary minded. In 1915 the missionary offering was \$366.62, the highest per capita in Indiana at that time. The missionary giving continued to grow until in 1945-46 the amount was \$1,028.13 for foreign work, \$195 for Home Missions and \$2,384.89 for Brethren Service, a total of \$3,508.02, or \$29.02 per capita.

The church was always served by the free ministry until 1940 when Bro. Leo Miller became part time pastor. From 1942-1951 Bro. Galen Bowman served as pastor on part time. Dale Brubaker began as pastor in 1951. The membership at present is 160.

#### **BETHEL (1884)**

In 1881 Eld. W. R. Deeter moved from Delaware County to Kosciusko County, within the bounds of the Solomon's Creek Church. About 100 members lived in the northeast part of Kosciusko County at that time. A house was built about three miles southeast of Milford in 1877, known as Pleasant View Chapel. With the coming of Bro. Deeter into this group of members, there was a movement to divide the Solomon's Creek congregation. This was accomplished in 1884, the southern part taking the name, Bethel.

Bro. W. R. Deeter was the only minister, and John Robinson and Cyrus Lentz were deacons. W. B. Neff was soon called to the ministry. Some preaching was done in a schoolhouse in the Enoch Hoover neighborhood. Another church known as New Salem was built in 1897, three miles south and two miles east of Milford. This place grew and in Jan. 1911 was organized as a separate congregation.

March 26, 1897, Manly Deeter, son of W. R. Deeter, was called to the ministry; he was advanced a year later and ordained to the eldership in 1901. William Neff was ordained in 1898, and in 1901 Bro. William Jones was called to the ministry; at the same time,



Jacob and Henry Neff were chosen deacons. Other deacons who served here were: Samuel Ulery, Samuel Coy, J. B. Neff, T. L. Hammond, G. G. Grady and Melvin Neff. Later on Emory Cooper and A. E. Ernsberger were elected deacons also, Bro. Ernsberger moving to Bremen in a few years.

In 1902 Bro. L. M. Neher, a minister from North Manchester moved to Milford. He soon became interested in having services in town. A hall was rented and services began. In 1905 a comfortable church house was built in the east part of town. Members began to settle in town so that the work prospered. Elder W. R. Deeter moved to town and Sister L. M. Neher was given the authority to preach in 1906. In 1911 the New Salem territory was cut off and in 1915 the Pleasant View Chapel became a separate organization, leaving the Bethel as Milford and the surrounding community with 100 members and W. R. Deeter and Manly Deeter as elders, and Lee Cory, Floyd Schuder and Noble Neff as ministers.

Since 1925 Bethel has been served by a pastoral program. About that time R. H. Nicodemus, who had taught for a number of years in Bethany Biblical Seminary, and later in Manchester College, came as Bethel's first pastor. He remained here for about two years and was followed by Ralph Rarick who served about the same length of time. Bro. Lee Cory, one of the home ministers served as pastor for a number of years. Following him Russell Sherman served as summer pastor for a few years while teaching school in Garrett in the winter. About 1939 Theodore Miller of Nappanee began pastoral service here. In 1943 Vernon Johnson came as pastor and remained two years. C. C. Cripe was pastor on full time 1945-1951. Ernest Bowman is the present pastor.

For many years W. R. Deeter was elder in charge of Bethel. He was followed by his son Manly. Bro. J. W. Kitson was later selected elder for a time. Bro. Lee R. Cory was chosen elder in 1918 and with the exception of one year presided until 1942, when Bro. Howard Kreider was selected. Bro. Galen Bowman served from 1946-1951. Ira Long is the present elder.

Bethel has always maintained a good Sunday School. Names of superintendents and dates are lacking for most of the years, though it is known that the following served for longer or shorter periods of time: Emory Cooper, C. R. Shuder, Noble Neff, Ida Neff, Lee Cory,

**Auburn**

**Bethany**

**Blissville**

**Bremen**

**Baugo**

**Bethel**

**Blue River**

**Buchanan**







Marion Deeter, Elma Reuter, Lois Reuter, Neal Cory, Iva Neff, Jesse Miller and Arthur LeRoy Gilbert.

While the congregation has never been large in numbers, still it maintains an active Women's Work organization. The present membership is 98.

#### **BLISSVILLE (1912)**

The Blissville Church was formerly a part of the Pine Creek Church which in turn was once a part of the South Bend congregation. It became a separate organization in 1912, having three houses of worship, the Blissville house, the Center house and the Oregon house. A few years later, 1917, the Center house, with the northeastern part of the congregation was organized as a separate church and a few years later, about 1925 or later, the services at the Oregon house were discontinued, leaving just one house of worship with a rather large territory to serve.

The church was served by a free ministry until 1937, when Cecil Morningstar came in as part time pastor. He served two years and was followed by Clyde Joseph, who served five years. Bro. William Loucks was part time pastor, 1947-1951. Robert Swank began as pastor in 1951.

Bro. John Markley was the recognized leader in the congregation for many years, serving as elder for 18 years with the exception of two years when Arthur Miller was elder, 1924-25. Since 1936, G. G. Canfield served as elder two years; Edward Stump, one year; C. C. Cripe, three years; John Stump, one year; Ben Cross, two years; John Stump is the present elder.

Oren Ruff, Jesse Pippenger, Glen Bottorf, Lawrence Pontius, Jesse Burkholder, Ben Ecker and Chester Burch are the present deacons in the official Board. They have an active Women's Work and Men's Work organization, and the church, at present numbering 125, is in a prosperous condition, with a good outlook.

Throughout her history, the church has had a very active Sunday School. The following have served as superintendents since 1918: Oren Ruff, Jesse Pippenger, Francis Smith, Arthur Miller, Chester Burch, Ralph Humphrey, Glen Bottorf, Arthur Long, Howard Rogers, Floyd Bottorf, Claude Haag and Chester Berry.

#### **BLUE RIVER (1852)**

The Blue River Church was organized in 1852, with twenty-one members. The first brethren were largely from Montgomery County, Ohio. Among these were the Zeiglers, Hyres, Olingers, Rogers, Shoups and Kinzies. Christian Kinzie was the first deacon. Joseph Zeigler and Wesley Hyre were elected to the ministry soon after the organization of the church. For some years James Tracy and Henry



Neff exercised a kind of watch-care over this band of members. The first regular presiding elder was Jeremiah Gump. He was succeeded by Leonard Hyre, who was elected to the ministry in 1870. Among the other ministers who served here were: Sylvanus Merica, elected in 1865; Joseph Eby who came from the Wawaka congregation; George Swihart and Michael Plummer, elected in 1876; Jacob Swihart and Christian Zumbrum, elected in 1884. Later on, Walter Swihart became the leading minister here, serving for a number of years as elder of the congregation. Roy Smith and Clarence Bowers were also elected in 1907; Everett Chapman was elected in 1921.

The first house of worship was built in 1872, located seven miles west of Churubusco. This was replaced in 1908 by a substantial and more modern house, which still serves the community well.

The church was served for many years by the free ministry. Later Bro. Samuel Burger and Ellis Wagner each served as pastor for a short time. In 1925, Eld. L. U. Kreider began service as pastor and elder of the congregation, and served continuously in both offices until 1948, the church prospering greatly under his supervision. Eld. T. G. Weaver began service as pastor, 1949, and was followed by Charles A. Light, 1950. Bro. Russel Sherman is the present elder.

A long list of deacons, past and present, includes the following: G. W. Brown, James Cook, Charles Boggs, John Swihart, Jonas Zeigler, Frederick Magley, Charles Bunyan, Jesse Swihart, William Allman, Clarence Shively, Noah Shively, Samuel Harlan, Perry Long, Charles Zumbrum, Everett Chapman, Monroe Miller, Murray Shively, William Brumbaugh, Forest Zumbrum, Glenn Kreider, Cecil Phend, Oris Zumbrum, Ralph Miller, Paul Zumbrum, and Alfred Gross.

The Sunday School superintendents who have served since 1919 are: Omar Zumbrum, Charles Bunyan, Murray Shively, Arley Smith, Elva Stuckman, Earl McCoy, Ralph Miller, Glenn Kreider, Ford Bitting, Hugh Frank, Paul Zumbrum, Oris Zumbrum, Russel Sherman and Russel Kreider.

The church has contributed liberally to missions all along, and in 1938 Sister Evelyn Frank went out from here as a missionary to Africa and served until called home because of ill health. She passed away in July, 1948. The congregation today numbers 265, and has a hopeful outlook.

#### **BREMEN (1866)**

The Bremen congregation comprises the northern part of the territory of what was once known as the Yellow River Church, and became a separate congregation in 1866. It began with 55 members. The first house of worship was built about two miles southeast of Bremen. Eld. John S. Kauffman, a native of Pennsylvania, was



called to the ministry here in 1882, and ordained in 1887. From that time until his death in 1914, he was the faithful shepherd of this flock. Others called to the ministry from this church were: Simon Eversole, Henry Neff, Jesse Bollman, Ervin Weaver, Owen Harley, and in the later years, Carl Yoder, in 1940, and Robert Swank in 1947. Simon Eversole spent his last days in the Pine Creek Church; Henry Neff at Elkhart; Jesse Bollman is still living in Elkhart; Ervin Weaver has held pastorates in various states since finishing his work at Manchester College; Owen Harley has lived in Wisconsin for many years.

In 1913 Joseph Sala moved in the congregation. He was ordained in 1914 and served as pastor and elder until 1918. Charles C. Cripe followed him in 1918 and served as pastor and elder until Sept. 1935. During his pastorate the church membership was more than doubled. Following this, Gorman Zook was pastor for one year; John Metzler was pastor for three years; Hugh Miller for 2½ years. Raymond Risdon was summer pastor in 1940; W. D. Keller followed him for three years. James Beahm was pastor for five years; Warren Shoemaker has been pastor since 1948.

In 1913 the old building in the country was torn down and a new house was built in Bremen. This house was somewhat remodeled in 1928 with a re-dedication service. A twenty-fifth anniversary service was held in 1938.

This congregation has for years maintained an evergreen Sunday School, though names of the superintendents are available only as far back as 1916 when Alexander Schlemmer was in charge of the school. Following him in turn are: Levi Bollman, Sharon Stuntz, A. E. Ernsberger, Milo Weaver, Harry Wright, Warren Miller, Dr. E. Lee Burrous, Harry Rowe, Roy Kauffman, Mrs. Kenneth Fisher, Paul Cripe, Mahlon Heister, G. A. Berkey, Ralph Replogle and Harry Shoup. This church has an excellent corps of workers.

The present deacon board are A. E. Ernsberger, Milo Weaver, Warren Miller, and Otis Loucks. The congregation is in a healthy, growing condition with a membership of 171.

#### **BERRIEN (1867-1925); BUCHANAN (1925)**

The territory of Northern Indiana has always included the southern tier of counties of Michigan. The Portage Church was the second church organized in Northern Indiana. The Northern part of this congregation comprised Berrien County, Michigan. As early as 1867, this part of the Portage Church was organized as the Berrien Church, and continued under that name until 1922, when the house was sold and work was begun in Buchanan. A house was built here in 1925 and the church name was accordingly changed to Buchanan.



The Millers were prominent in the work here from the beginning: Jacob Miller being elder of the congregation from 1867 to 1872; James Miller from 1872 to 1886; Isaac Miller from 1886 to 1887; John Miller from 1887 to 1892; Thurston Miller from 1892 to 1895. Following these I. D. Parker and Eli Roose were elder, each for one year. This congregation has long been under the support of the Mission Board of Northern Indiana, and as such, has been under their supervision, one of its members being elder in charge continuously.

Eld. Eli Roose and wife spent much time here in Mission Work, as also did Eld. R. J. Shreeve. William Weaver, George Weaver and Lewis Howard were called to the ministry here, the latter two in 1898. Much of the ministerial efforts and pastoral care of this church has been carried on in the later years, especially since the church is in Buchanan, by young ministers, some of them being students in Bethany Biblical Seminary, and hence their pastorates were of short duration. Among them were the following: Earl Roop, Price Umphlet, J. W. Grater, Dewey Rowe, Charles Light, George Weybright, Ben Cross, Ira Long and George Stull, Bro. Stull being the present pastor.

The following have served as superintendents of the Sunday School: Fred Hagley, John Platz, Royden Ingleright, Geneva Stonebeck, Grace Weaver, Mabel Wallace, Vera Spencer and Russel Leazenby. For quite a number of years the progress of the work here has been slow and difficult; however it is on the upward trend. The membership numbers 38.

#### **CAMP CREEK (1879)**

The Camp Creek Church was organized from the east part of the Yellow River Church in 1879. David Shively was the recognized leader and after the organization, became the first elder. His son, George B. Shively, Aaron Mow and Peter Hammon were the first ministers. The church house was built in 1880, five miles north of Etna Green.

Following David Shively's death in 1910, Eld. J. C. Murray and Alexander Miller had charge of the church for several years. J. W. Shively was called to the ministry in 1889, was later ordained and given charge of the church. He served until 1917. Others who have served as elder were: Christian Metzler, 1917; David Metzler, 1917-21; I. S. Burns, 1922-28; David Metzler, 1929-33; John Metzler, 1934-36; N. H. Miller since 1937.

Owen L. Harley became the first pastor and served until 1921. The other pastors are: I. S. Burns, 1922-28; John Metzler, 1928-35; The present pastor, N. H. Miller has served since 1935. Brethren Daniel Flory and Charles Heisler make up the present deacon body.



Bro. Glenn I. Rummel lived in the congregation and served in the free ministry for a few years; also Edward Ruff, during some of the earlier years.

Records of Sunday School work do not reach back beyond 1918. Since then, Charles Heisler, Fred Height, Daniel Flory, R. H. Barnhart, Mildred Shively and Susan Burns each served one year as superintendent, two of them repeating. Then Glenn Disher served for five years; Truman Nifong for 14 years. Ada Jones has served since 1946.

The Women's Work organization was organized in 1931 and has been quite active. In 1944 a Budget system of finances was adopted and has proved very satisfactory. In 1940, the sixtieth anniversary of the building of the church was observed. The present membership is 50.

### **CEDAR CREEK (1855)**

In 1853 some families moved from Miami County, Ohio, to Allen, Dekalb and Noble Counties, Indiana. Among them were Jeremiah and Jacob Gump and their companions. Eld. George W. Studebaker soon came into this territory, preaching, and the Gumps, with others, united with the church. The same fall, the two brothers, Jeremiah and Jacob Gump were chosen to the ministry. The meeting for this election was held in the house of Samuel Shadows, who lived just south of Avilla. The meeting was held in the cabin loft and those who attended it reached the room by climbing a ladder and through a small window. Elders James Tracy, Jacob Berkey and John Miller were present. Samuel Sniders and Jonathan Wolfe were elected to the deacon's office the same day.

The Cedar Creek Church prospered under the preaching of these two brothers. Eld. George W. Studebaker took great delight in visiting and preaching for these members. Jeremiah Gump became a great evangelist, and spent much time preaching in this large territory. Many were brought into the church.

By 1873 the Cedar Creek Church had 125 members, widely scattered. It was thought best to divide the territory. That to the west was known as Pleasant Hill; to the north, Cedar Lake; to the east, Little St. Joe; that to the center and south, Cedar Creek. Eld. Jacob

**Camp Creek**

**Cedar Lake**

**Elkhart City**

**English Prairie**

**Cedar Creek**

**Center**

**Elkhart Valley**

**Florence**







Gump was given charge of the last three, while Jeremiah retained charge of Pleasant Hill, near his home. James Barton was a minister at Cedar Lake; Harrison Elson at Little St. Joe. This last named never prospered; in 1914 it was disorganized, most of the members going either to Hicksville, O. or to Cedar Creek.

After the division of the territory, Jacob Gump, John Stafford, C. G. Fair, Jesse Gump, David Hoover, C. W. Warstler, Manly Deeter, J. H. Urey, Christian Metzler, A. F. Morris, Charles Gump, and J. S. Flory have been the presiding elders, the last since 1941.

For many years the church was served by the free ministry. Since 1916 the following have served as pastors: C. W. Warstler, 1916-18; Benjamin Kerlin, 1919-21; T. G. Weaver, 1921-24; R. A. Sherman, 1924-25; Emmert Stover, 1925-26; A. F. Morris, 1926-39; J. S. Flory, 1939-44; Harold Myers, 1944-45; Arlo Gump, 1945-49; Glenn Mulligan since 1949.

Deacons who served here in the later years have been: David Ober, Dwight Vorhies, Edward Treesh, Wilbur Stonestreet, Jesse Ober and Josiah Woodcox.

Several of the more recent Sunday School superintendents have been: Wilbur Stonestreet, Jerry Gump, A. C. Lung, Walter Lung, and Jesse Ober, who have ably served for a total of fourteen years.

The fiftieth anniversary of the building of the church was celebrated in 1935, President Otho Winger delivering the message on, "The Church, Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow." The church has never had a large membership, but it is an active, alert congregation. Its membership at present is 107.

#### **CEDAR LAKE (1874)**

In 1873 the territory of the Cedar Lake congregation was separated from the Cedar Creek territory and was organized as a separate congregation in 1874. Jacob Gump was the first presiding elder. James Barton was elected to the ministry here and later ordained to the eldership and given charge of the church. He died here in 1902, having given 36 years to the ministry. Others called to the ministry here were George Ruffner, Samuel Williams, Samuel Urey, David Hoover, John H. Urey, Alva Long, and Russell Sherman. Other ministers serving here in the earlier days were J. H. Elson and Amos Budd.

Following James Barton's service as elder, Isaac Berkey served from 1894 to 1911; John Urey from 1911 to 1921; Jesse Gump from 1921 to 1924. Since then the following have served at various times: Frank Kreider, Harvey Shrock, David Metzler, Russell Sherman, Arthur Morris, Gorman Zook, Galen Bowman, Eldon Evans and since 1947, J. S. Flory.



The first deacons were Dan Phillips, Wm. Eisenberg, George Ruffner, Fred Imler, Gib. Patterson, Levi Roland, Joe Hoover, and the three brothers, Egbert, Lorenzo, and George Haynes. Later deacons have been Edward Haynes, Wm. Freed, Wm. Witt, Samuel Perkins, Ellis McClish, Edwin Sherman, Watter Kern, Heber Haynes and Chester Lung.

Among the later Sunday School Superintendents are Edward Haynes, Ellen Freed, Rabie Sliger, Russell Sherman, Nellie Rynearson, Joseph Ober, Jerry Pepple, Chester Lung and John Haynes.

Until 1923 the congregation was served by the free ministry; since then the following have served as pastors: Clyde C. Cripe, 1923-26; John Rarick, 1927-28; Russell Sherman, 1929-31; Gorman Zook, 1937-41; Kenneth Long, 1941-45; Vernon Johnson, 1945-47; Ralph Fry, 1947-51; William Loucks, 1951-.

The District Meeting was held in the Cedar Lake Church in 1898. Meal tickets were sold for 5c each. Mrs. Wm. Freed, still living, aged 80, says that donations were very generous then.

A parsonage was built and dedicated in 1924. Bro. Otho Winger was the speaker. He said this was his first experience attending a parsonage dedication. During 1942 the church was remodeled and rededicated with Russell Sherman and A. F. Morris as speakers.

Among the church clerks who have served here were G. F. Patterson who served continuously for 21 years and Carrie Ruffner who served for 20 years. Others served for shorter periods of time among whom are B. F. Eldridge, L. D. Haynes, Dr. Harold Urey, Samuel Perkins, Ida Haynes, John Haynes and Anna Ruth Haynes.

The congregation has always been interested in missions. Sister Velma Ober went out from here in 1936 as a missionary to China. After serving there for five years she was forced by war conditions to remain in America for five years. She returned to the China Field in 1946. Her home church partially supported her in her work. The membership of this church is now seventy-nine.

#### **CENTER (1917)**

This congregation is in the southern part of the territory known as the South Bend congregation. It was organized as the Pine Creek Church in 1854. In 1912 the south part was organized as the Blissville Church. In 1917 the north part of this territory asked to become a separate congregation, which was granted. George E. Swihart was the first elder, and Otis Gordon, Reuben Ruff and Clyde Miller were the deacons. In the same year George McCullough and Albert Burke were called to the deacon's office. Brethren Edward Stump and D. W. Titus, who had been called to the ministry previously, served the congregation of 86 members.



Feeling the need of a larger house, the church building was remodeled in 1918 and dedicated by Otho Winger. In 1920 Bro. Jesse Brown moved into the congregation and helped in the ministry. In 1921 Bro. Edward Stump became elder of the congregation. Bro. Homer Burke moved to Chicago, where he was called to the ministry and he prepared himself for missionary service. He served as a medical missionary in Africa for a number of years and is now in Puerto Rico. In 1925 the church called four young men into the ministry: Dewey Rowe, William Loucks, Claude Leslie and Eldon Burke. Bro. Rowe is now pastor in Seattle, Washington; William Loucks is pastor of the Cedar Lake Church; Claude Leslie has been pastor of the Pleasant Chapel Church, and Eldon Burke was working under the direction of CRALOG, in co-operation with the Brethren Service in Germany.

The church was served by the free ministry until 1931. Since then the following have served as pastors for short periods of time: William Loucks, Theodore Miller, Ben Cross, Wesley Brubaker, Dale Gibbony, and Noble Bowman. The following elders have had charge of the congregation: George Swihart, 1917-19; John Appleman, 1919-20; John Markley, 1920-24; J. O. Kessler, 1924-30; David Metzler, 1930; J. W. Grater, 1930-34; Clyde Joseph, 1934-39; Ervin Weaver, 1939-43; John Stump, since 1943.

The Sunday School, though small, has continued through the years. Otis Gordon, Ed Aldrich, and Joe Briles each served as superintendent a year; then Ed Aldrich served for three years more. Eldon Burke served a year; Dewey Rowe for two years; John Haag for two years; Eli Burger for one year; John Haag three years more; Mrs. Charles Schwartz for two years. Since 1934 Thomas Gordon has served continuously.

The territory is not large making expansion difficult. The present membership is 57.

#### **ELKHART CITY (1897)**

In a little more than half a century, this has grown to be the largest congregation numerically in Northern Indiana. It became a separate organization in June, 1897, being originally a part of the Elkhart Valley Church. Eld. I. D. Parker was a leading figure in the early organization. Soon came P. B. Fitzwater, Eli Heestand, C. C. Kindy and J. V. Felthouse to aid in the work.

The church house on South Sixth St. was built in 1893, while still part of the mother congregation. The building was remodeled in 1908 and again in 1923, Eld. W. R. Deeter preaching the dedicatory sermon at the first, and D. W. Kurtz the last one. In 1943 the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the church was observed, at which



time Edward Frantz was the guest speaker. The congregation has built a large, new, modern church on Benham Ave. (beside the parsonage) which was badly needed, and which will adequately care for needs of the fast growing congregation. The dedicatory service was held June 25, 1950, with Rufus D. Bowman as speaker. The building cost \$125,000.

The congregation has been under pastoral supervision throughout her history, part of the time the shepherd received little support financially, but through later years, full support. A list of the pastors, together with the time they served follows: I. D. Parker, 1893-1897; J. H. Miller, 1897-1898; P. B. Fitzwater, 1898-1900; E. L. Heestand, 1900-1904; 1907-1909; J. V. Felthouse, 1905-1906; C. C. Kindy, 1909-1911; Elias Swihart, 1918-1924; William J. Buckley, 1924-1927; William Kinsey, 1927-1932; Lorell Weiss, 1932-1935; G. W. Phillips, 1935 to 1950; Foster Statler, 1950-.

A great number of men have served as elder of the congregation. They are as follows: John Metzler, A. H. Puterbaugh, I. D. Parker, J. H. Miller, H. W. Kriegbaum, S. F. Sanger, E. L. Heestand, J. W. Grater, Christian Metzler, E. C. Swihart, O. H. Warstler, William J. Buckley, David Metzler, T. E. George, William Kinsey, Lorell Weiss, Burton Metzler, H. F. Richards, Eldon Evans, Glen Weimer and S. W. Longenecker, the present elder.

A long list of men have served as deacons in the history of the congregation, some of whom have died and others having moved to other congregations. The present deacons are: John J. Clem, Charles Barringer, Merl Brumbaugh, Floyd Cripe, Eli Garber, Gordon Lantz, Harvey B. Miller, Melvin Miller, Lawrence Plank, William Rhoades and George U. Heeter.

Sunday School has been carried on from the beginning of the church. Most of the superintendents have served but a year or two, though a few have served longer. The list follows: Henry Domer, Mrs. I. D. Parker, A. C. Kindy, D. A. Harter, J. H. Grosh, George Rummel, W. U. Miller, Charles Troup, L. W. Berkey, Charles Eaton, Hugh Warstler, Allen Weldy, Gordon Lantz, Levi Arnold, Robert Thompson, William Foltz and Lawrence Stump.

The women organized an Aid Society at the beginning of the church organization and have always been unusually active. The Men's Work was organized in the fall of 1927 and they have continued to be a vital factor in the work of the church.

Elkhart City has always been very active in District and Brotherhood work. While no one has gone out from this church as a missionary, Miss Velma Ober taught school here for a number of years and she worked in the Sunday School during that time. The church here voted to contribute four-fifths of her personal support on the China mission field, her home church, Cedar Lake, contributing the balance.



The present membership of the congregation is 603. Bro. G. W. Phillips and wife served the church as pastors from Sept. 1935 to Sept. 1950, and the outlook for the church is good. It has made a steady, healthy growth.

Foster Statler was installed as pastor Oct. 1, 1950.

### **ELKHART VALLEY (1870)**

This church comprised the northwest part of the original Elkhart congregation (now West Goshen). It later became a part of the Yellow Creek Church and was organized as a separate congregation in 1870.

Sebastian Frame had lived in this territory before this. He came from Montgomery County, Ohio in 1845 and settled near Dunlap. A few years later he died of typhoid fever, at the age of 52. His son Gabriel was elected to the ministry in 1870, but lived only a few years. Amsey Puterbaugh was elected to the ministry at the same time as Gabriel Frame. Amsey's grandfather had moved from Miami County, Ohio, to Carroll County, Ill., and then to the Elkhart Valley Church about 1870, where he served as a minister and elder a few years. Amsey became recognized as a leader throughout the district. J. V. Felt-house was called to the ministry here and served for some time, but later moved to Florida. Joseph Culp was elected here and served for some years. Jacob Cripe was another minister who served for a number of years. He later became a noted evangelist. Frank Kreider was elected here and gave his whole life of ministerial service here. Others who served in the ministry here at various times were: Joe Stutsman, George Stull, Paul Kendall, William Brubaker, Lewis Overholser and Peter Huffman. It is only recently that the church has had a supported ministry. Virgil Brallier was a summer pastor in 1943 and Russell Stout in 1944. Charles Stouder served as part time pastor from 1945 on, and became full time pastor in September, 1949.

Frank Kreider was elder of the congregation from 1910 to 1920 and from 1923 to 1936. George Swihart and Harvey Schwalm were elder for one year each in the interim. George Stull was elder from 1936 to 1943. T. E. George has served as elder since 1944. Robert Martin was called to the ministry here in 1944. He is now pastor in Michigan. John Detwiler was called to the ministry in 1946.

Sam Garber and Jerome Sherman were called to the deacon's office in 1921; Charles Puterbaugh, Russel Stutsman, Henry Roush and Burnette Berkey in 1926; Robert Ryman, in 1927; Albert Kreider and Merl Brumbaugh in 1929; Dan West, Dayton Kreider, Lewis Weldy and Lamar Stickle in 1945.

The following have served as superintendent of the Sunday School, together with the length of service: William Brubaker, two



years; Wesley Priser, one year; Sam Garber, three years; Jerome Sherman, two years; Dan Martin, one year; Susie Garber, one year; Roy Bowser, one year, Albert Kreider, three years, L. W. Berkey, two years; Carl Kreider, two years; Merl Brumbaugh, one year; Sam Miller, one year, Harley Housour, one year; Dayton Kreider, two terms of two years each; Wayne Housour, two years; Paul Housour, two years, Henry Roush, two years; Manford Nusbaum, one year; Dayton Kreider has served since 1948. This church has a good substantial house of worship and is in a flourishing condition, with a membership of 183.

### ENGLISH PRAIRIE (1864)

Peter Long was the first preacher to work in this section of Northern Indiana. He was a native of Pennsylvania. He came to Holmes County, Ohio, when but a boy, where he lived for a number of years. Here he was married and was elected to the ministry about 1860. In 1863 he and eight other families settled in Lagrange County, Indiana. The next year, 1864, the church was organized by Elder Jacob Berkey. In 1873 the church house was built on his farm. He was ordained in 1878 and given charge of the church, remaining its elder until his death in 1908.

Other ministers assisting him were Eli Schrock, Alexander Keim and Noah Shutt, the latter being Peter Long's son-in-law, who was elected in 1878 and ordained in 1900. He was presiding elder from 1908 till his death in 1914. His helper in the ministry, Y. D. Yoder, surviving him only a few months. The other ministers of the congregation at this time were: S. J. Burger, Carl Yoder and Charles Light. Bro. Burger was a native of this community; was elected to the ministry in 1900 and ordained in 1907. He did much evangelistic work, dying in 1931. Carl Yoder has given all his ministerial labors in this congregation and was presiding elder for a number of years. He still lives in the congregation. Charles Light served here for many years, part of the time as presiding elder. Soon after the Brethren Service Center started in Nappanee, he and his wife moved there and were managers of that work for some years.

The church was served continuously by the free ministry until during recent years. Raymond Risdon was their first pastor and served from 1945 to 1947. Bro. J. S. Zigler began pastoral service here in 1948. He passed away in January, 1950. The church purchased a parsonage in 1945. B. D. Hirt assumed the pastoral leadership in 1950.

A Sunday School was organized about 1883 with Bro. Levi Hostettler as superintendent. He was succeeded by Melvin Agley. No further names are available until recent years. The names and dates of service follow: Clemon Burger, 1935-39; Mark Agley, 1940-41; Glen



Burger, 1942; Mark Agley, 1943-45; Mrs. Arlene Kraning, 1946; Glen Burger, 1947; Mrs. Anna Zigler, 1948; Gerald Gochenaur, 1949.

The present deacon Board is as follows: Marley Rowe, Carl Pershing, Glen Burger and John Shultz. The congregation, now numbering 81, is scattered over a large territory.

#### FLORENCE (1931)

The Florence, Michigan, congregation is one of the youngest in Northern Indiana, being organized in May, 1931. It was originally part of the Shipshewana territory. Brother and Sister Frank Reed lived near Centerville, Mich., about eighteen miles from the Shipshewana Church for about twenty-five years, and Sister Reed was especially interested in having a church nearer their home. At different times the Reeds, the Boles, the Hoyts, and a few others asked for services in the community. Finally the German Reformed church building on the Centerville-Constantine road was vacant and they received permission to use it for Sunday School and church services. George Sherck, then pastor of the Shipshewana congregation, consulted the Mission Board about starting a mission there. D. R. Yoder was asked to go and investigate. It was decided that the Board should send a minister to preach every other Sunday, and E. C. Swihart of Elkhart was secured. Noble Bowman and others assisted in the work.

The first Sunday School was organized on May 12, 1927, with Russel Searer of Three Rivers as superintendent. Other superintendents since have been Homer Yoder and Harry Oxander. In March 1929, J. E. Jarboe held a two weeks meeting and thirty-five were baptized. The group felt the need of a resident minister and asked Bro. George Sherck to take charge. He resigned at Shipshewana and in Sept. 1929 he and his family moved near the church on a farm which he purchased. He continued to serve the congregation as pastor until 1947 when he moved to Goshen. Since then, Bro. Glenn Rummel has served as pastor. Bro. Sherck served as elder until 1942. Bro. J. J. Hamm was in charge the following year and Bro. Homer Schrock has served as elder since.

Brethren Russel Searer and Harry Oxander were elected as deacons in 1931. The deacons at present are Bro. Oxander and Bro. Joe Roberts who came in from Shipshewana.

In 1940 an effort was made to buy the building which was built by the German Reformed congregation in 1876. The brethren were given a life lease on the property for one dollar, as the deed was made to the people of Florence township for religious services only. The building has been remodeled, redecorated, and Sunday School rooms have been added. Although the active membership is only 61, the congregation is



making a good spiritual contribution to the community, and is near the top of the list for per-member conference budget giving for the district.

### **FORT WAYNE (1897)**

In September 1894, members of the Church of the Brethren living in Ft. Wayne met in the Milton Fischer home for worship and Bible study. Meetings in other homes followed and soon preaching services in homes and rented halls were being conducted by Brethren Jacob Ahner and William Finney. Since Ft. Wayne is on the dividing line between the Middle and Northern districts, both Mission Boards began to help finance the work.

On Feb. 14, 1897, under the supervision of Elders Jacob Snell and W. R. Deeter, a church was organized. There were fourteen charter members: Bro. and Sister Jacob Ahner, Bro. Finney, Bro. and Sister Milton Fischer and son Lon and his wife; Bro. and Sister Frank Colclessor, Sisters Jane Hughs and Mary Mertz, Bro. Amos Ebey and Bro. and Sister Walter Langstaff.

The first S. S. Superintendent was Amos Ebey. The attendance the first Sunday was twenty-seven and the offering, fifty-three cents. The first accessions were received by baptism in the St. Mary's River on Easter Sunday, 1897.

In 1901 a church house was completed on the present site and on July 24 Bro. I. B. Trout preached the dedicatory sermon. L. H. Ebey took charge of the pastoral work and Sister Sylvia Cripe assisted especially in the Sunday School and home-visitation work. This same year the old Flat Rock church in the southern part of Allen County was disorganized and the members were lettered to Ft. Wayne.

In 1906 Ft. Wayne was assigned entirely to the Northern Indiana District. During the following several years interest reached a low ebb, and for a few months during 1913 the doors were closed. Plans were under way to dispose of the property, but services were resumed in 1919.

During most of the time previous to 1924 Bro. Ahner was the only resident minister, but many visiting brethren helped in the work. Among these were; Hiram Forney, E. L. Heestand, J. W. Kitson, George Mishler, Dorsey Hogden, Jesse Byerly, Daniel Byerly, John Kline, Otho Winger, Jesse Gump, Manly Deeter and others. Lee Cory was the first young man called to the ministry here. Others called later were Vernon Miller (1938), Don Wright (1948), and Galen Holcomb (1949). Bro. Herbert Dilling was ordained to the eldership in 1947 and continues to live here. Stuart Swink and Nettie Senger were licensed to the ministry in 1950.

In 1923 the deacon board consisted of the following brethren and their wives: Frank Colclessor, who is still senior deacon, Amos Ebey,



Rhue Keel, Jacob Long and Earl Rutledge. Bro. and Sister O. B. Bosserman were elected in 1924, and Bro. and Sister Chas. Yager and Bro. and Sister Carl Nobles in 1936. Several other deacons moved in. The present deacon board consists of Frank Colclessner and the following brethren and their wives: Chas. Circle, Chas. Bruch, Raymond Holmes, Chas. Jackson, Carl Nobles, Earl Rutledge, Ross Sills, R. L. Valentine, and O. B. Bosserman.

Other S. S. Superintendents besides Amos Ebey have been Mrs. H. M. Stover, Katie Ebey, Mrs. J. W. Kitson, George Bender, Bro. Studebaker, W. H. Langstaff, Edward Lear, R. L. Valentine, Ross Sills, Guy Harader, W. H. Schwartz, Carl Nobles, Omar Zumbrum and Edgar Gump.

Early elders in charge were Daniel Snell and Eli Roose, A. L. Wright, Will Neff, W. R. Deeter, John Bright, E. L. Heestand, J. W. Kitson, J. R. Miller and Isaac Wike, all of whom are deceased. Elders having charge since 1925 are: Jesse Gump, T. G. Weaver, A. F. Morris and Russell Weller.

A new epoch began for the Ft. Wayne Church in 1925 with the coming of Wilbur Bantz as the first full-time pastor. During his pastorate the church house was remodeled and a parsonage built. The congregation became fully organized and progress began in all departments. 88 members were added by baptism. Both the physical and spiritual growth continued even during the depression years under the devoted leadership of Bro. S. S. Blough who served as pastor from 1929 to 1934. From 1934 to 1939 Bro. Leo Miller served as pastor. During these years additional improvements were made to the church plant and there were 141 additions by baptism.

Pastor Van B. Wright came to the Fort Wayne Church in 1939 and remained for nine years. The congregation continued to be greatly blest under his gracious leadership. One hundred and nine more were received by baptism and nearly as many by letter, and the interest of the congregation in the local, district and Brotherhood programs continued to grow.

On Sept. 1, 1948, Eugene V. Gnagy became pastor of the Ft. Wayne congregation which now numbers more than 400 members. Harlan Smith became pastor in 1951.

### **GOSHEN CITY (1905)**

The city of Goshen lies in the very center of the activities of the

**Fort Wayne**

**Laporte**

**Michigan City**

**Mount Pleasant**

**Goshen City**

**Maple Grove**

**Middlebury**

**Nappanee**







Brethren in Northern Indiana. The first organized efforts were started in the fall of 1895 when Eld. Hiram Forney held an evangelistic meeting in a tent. The interest was excellent and was followed by weekly prayer meetings held in the homes of the few families of members scattered over the city, among them being H. B. Hess, A. D. Miller, D. R. Yoder, M. C. Schrock, A. J. Miller and Grandma Wysong.

Later another tent meeting was held and soon a hall was rented for regular services. A Sunday School was organized with Bro. Jacob Whittle as superintendent. Interest increased and larger quarters were necessary. It soon became apparent that a permanent place of worship was needed so the Rock Run Church, of which Goshen City was a part, appointed a building committee and supervised the fine brick building which still stands at the corner of Fifth and Clinton Streets. Eld. J. F. Spitzer preached the dedicatory sermon in November 1899, following with another evangelistic service. The work prospered and was organized in 1905 as a separate congregation with Bro. I. L. Berkey as elder. He was followed by David Metzler, Frank Kreider and John Kitson. T. E. George has been presiding elder since 1921 with the exception of one year when J. S. Zigler had charge.

The ministers who served here in the early years were: Levi Hoke, I. D. Parker, Hiram Forney, W. H. Greenawalt, Daniel Shively, Abram Neff, and John Kitson, who became the first pastor. Special mention should be made of I. D. Parker whose activities were Brotherhood-wide. He was travelling secretary of the General Mission Board for a number of years, a member of General Conference Committees, member of Standing Committee a number of times, an officer of General Conference, served on the Board of Trustees of Ashland College and later of Manchester College at a time when it was a struggling institution.

C. Walter Warstler was called to the ministry here in 1909. He was later pastor here for a time. He held pastorates at different places since, at present being located at Middletown, Ohio. Robert Tully was licensed to the ministry here in 1927 and installed a year later. He served as athletic director in Bethel College, North Newton, Kansas. Harold Myers was licensed in the ministry here in 1937. He now lives in Elkhart and gives his service as an evangelist. Lawrence Rule was licensed in 1942 and installed a year later.

Deacons elected in Goshen are as follows: Adam Tully and M. C. Schrock in 1908; D. R. Yoder and Melvin Swartz in 1909; A. C. Michael, Arthur Shultz and Charles Sherman in 1919; Ora Bigler, Fred Holderman and C. F. Troyer in 1923; Glenn Strycker, Paul Neterer, Earl Slagel, Ora Eyler, Clarence Berkey and Ralph Swihart in 1942. M. C. Schrock and D. R. Yoder, among the first elected, are still on the Official Board.



Frank A. Myers served for several years here as pastor. He later moved to Pennsylvania, and still later to Ohio. Since 1921 T. E. George has served as pastor. Bro. George came to Indiana from Kansas. He was pastor at First South Bend for several years; later at North Manchester for a few years. He has served on Standing Committee a number of times, was moderator of District Meeting nine times, once as writing clerk. His pastorate of this church for 30 years is perhaps the longest of any in history of supported ministry in the district, and is exceeded by few in the Brotherhood. The church has flourished during his period of service, at present numbering 423 members. Clarence Fike became pastor, Jan. 1, 1952.

The church has always maintained a live Sunday School. Jacob Whittle, D. R. Yoder, Milton Wysong and James Riley served as superintendents. Since 1914 Ora Bigler, Merl Stump, Elmer Kauffman and Everett Holderman served until 1929. Richard Bigler and Ralph Swihart have served since.

The church building has been remodeled at different times since built in 1899. The Sunday School is cramped for room now and plans are under way to build a new building; a sizable fund is already raised. A fiftieth year celebration of the use of this house was held in November, 1949.

### LAPORTE (1869)

This formerly comprised the territory of Laporte County and was the western part of what was then known as the Portage Church. The first preaching by the Brethren was in the barn of Jacob Heckman in 1853, by Jacob Miller. The first love feast was held in the barn of Jacob Replogle in 1859. The church was organized in 1869 by Elders Jacob, James and David Miller. Isaac Miller was the first resident elder. Jacob Replogle and Lewis Redding were the first deacons. Thurston Miller was a minister and elder here for a number of years.

What is known as the Rossberg House was purchased from the Christian Church in 1873. It is five miles north of Laporte. It was used until September 1923. The building was sold to Eld. John C. Collins for \$226. A building was erected in Waterford in 1895. This work was later discontinued and the building sold in 1920 for \$1000. A small mission building was built on Weller Ave. in Laporte and used for a time but this was later sold for \$1200. All this money received from sale of buildings was put in the building fund for the new building erected at 414 Hawthorne St. in Laporte in 1923, being dedicated March 2, 1924. A twenty-fifth anniversary service was held in 1949.

Ministers elected here since the organization were: R. J. Shreve, Benjamin Redding, William Bialt, Chancey Replogle, J. C. Collins, Jasper Cross, Benjamin Cross, Kenneth Murphy and J. Herbert



Zook. An interesting fact is that in this church for many years there were quite a number of deaf mutes attending services, requiring the service of an interpreter at all services. One of them, Jasper Cross, father of Benjamin and Nathan Cross, was elected to the ministry and served for a number of years.

The church was served for many years by the free ministry, but since about 1916 has had the service of part-time pastors. Those serving here were Henry D. Bowman, Jesse, Merlin and Russell Shull, E. R. Fisher, Eli Roose, Price Umphlet, Herbert Zook and Kenneth Murphy. The present pastor is Walter G. Fisher.

A Sunday School was organized in 1864 in the home of Bro. and Sister William Merchant, with Thurston Miller as superintendent. Since the work has been carried on at its present location, the following have been superintendent at various times: Agnes Merchant, Herbert Bayer, Emanuel Gordon, William Replogle, Paul Wolfe, Victor Rensberger and Galen Barnhart.

The church has a very active Women's Work and has lately organized a Men's Work, also. Among the present deacons are E. L. Tomlinson, Victor Rensberger, Paul Wolfe, William Kusmaul, Alfred Ostermeyer, Galen Barnhart, and Herbert Bayer. There is a hopeful outlook here with a present membership of 150.

#### **LITTLE PINE (1950)**

In the summer of 1950, the northern part of the West Goshen territory was separated from the mother church and became a separate congregation, taking the name of Little Pine. This was formerly Pine Creek house, West Goshen congregation. They have 28 members and have as their elder, George Sherck from the West Goshen Church. Elder Lewis Overholser is their principal leader and does most of the preaching. They have sufficient territory to work so that they should make good progress. The first year of their existence showed their giving to the Conference to be more than some churches of much larger numerical strength. There is a good outlook here.

#### **MAPLE GROVE (1906)**

This was formerly known as the Whitehead Church and is located two miles southwest of New Paris. It was formerly part of the Elkhart Church, later of the Turkey Creek Church, and still later of the Union Center Church. It was organized as a separate congregation in 1906. It was the center of the original Turkey Creek membership, and the second meeting-house in Northern Indiana was built here in 1854. It was used for many years, being remodeled in 1947 with a basement and a modern kitchen and rest-rooms, being rededicated June 1, 1947.

About 1837 six Whitehead brothers and three sisters, Samuel,



Peter, Adam, Valentine, John, Lewis, Esther Stutsman, Mary Conrad, and Margaret Lentz located here from Montgomery County, Ohio. Peter and Lewis gave the ground for the meeting-house, Samuel gave the timber, and John gave the ground for the cemetery just across the road from the church, where many of the Whitehead family and others have since been buried. D. J. Whitehead, son of Samuel, was a prominent deacon in the congregation, and a member of the District Mission Board for many years. Iverson Mishler, a grandson of Samuel Whitehead, was a minister in the congregation for a number of years, later moving to New Paris. Besides him, Charles Neff, elected in 1907, and Calvin Cripe, elected in 1908, served in the ministry here; both were ordained here, Charles Neff being presiding elder for ten years, or untill 1919. Since then, the following have presided: Manly Deeter, Eli Roose, Frank Kreider, John Frederick and William Brubaker. The last named moved to New Paris but served as pastor from 1935 to 1945. Donald Frederick and Burton Metzler each served one summer as pastor. Robert Martin was the pastor 1946-1951. Raymond Hoover is the present pastor.

George Krull has served as deacon here for thirty-two years and Mel Reed for twenty years. Others in the deacon body are: David Krull, Forest Myers, Guy Leatherman and Ralph Brubaker, Charles Rogers, Russell Hoover and Murl Calbeck.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1870 with Cyrus Lentz as superintendent. Those of later years have been: Rollo Neff, James Peters, Frances Krull, Frank Snider, Carl Kleckner, George Roush, Raymond Krull, Forest Myers, Opal Blosser and Dorothy Reed. The church has never had a large membership, but a very active one. At present they number 95.

### **MICHIGAN CITY (1932)**

It was the noble ambition of Elder Eli Roose that in his lifetime he should have the privilege of helping to start and build a church from its beginning into a working congregation. He and his good wife put in many hours in such a project in Michigan City. This was during the years 1927 to 1932, while he was also pastor of the Laporte Church. In fact it was carried on as a mission point of the Laporte Church.

The church building was erected in 1927, being dedicated on Sept. 18 of that year, by Otho Winger. Bro. and Sister Roose lived in an apartment in the basement of this church and it was while he was on his death-bed that the mother church at Laporte granted their petition to become a separate congregation. Bro. Roose's funeral was the first to be held in this church, soon after its organization in 1932.

There were ten charter members in the work here, four more being baptized in 1928. The first communion service was held in 1930.



Elder William Gordon lived here and worked along with Bro. Roose. The work has been under the care and support of the Mission Board of Northern Indiana up to the present time, one of its members serving as presiding elder. Following Bro. Roose, the following have served as pastors: Charles Zunkle, 1932-35; Paul Lantis, 1935-37; D. W. Schock, 1937-39; W. Glenn McFadden, 1939-42; David Schechter, 1942-46; Paul Noffsinger, 1946-48; Paul Fike. Darrel Fryman is the present pastor.

A Sunday School was organized in 1927 with 35 attending, and with William Kuszmaul as superintendent. Others following him were: Claire Sampson, Emanuel Gordon, Mrs. Miriam Gunns, Israel Gordon, Mrs. Margaret Nickols and Alva Wood.

Israel Gordon and wife were installed as deacons soon after the church was organized. In 1946 two young brethren were licensed to the ministry, William Gordon and Eugene Kuszmaul. They are now in College preparing for their life work. The church has had a healthy growth and has a good outlook. It now has a membership of 106.

#### **MIDDLEBURY (1913)**

For years there were members living in Middlebury and at times they found it inconvenient to get to services in the Pleasant Valley Church, their church home. In 1911 a good house of worship was built and the congregation was organized in 1913, with J. H. Fike as presiding elder. Others as presiding elder since have been: Cyrus Steele, T. E. George, J. H. Schrock, Galen Bowman, Harold Miller, B. D. Hirt, and Mark Schrock, the present elder. Cyrus Steele was ordained in 1920. I. E. Weaver moved to Illinois for a time but now lives in Middle Indiana. Since then, Paul and Mark Schrock were licensed to the ministry in 1927, and Troy Schrock was licensed in 1934, these three being sons of Elder J. H. Schrock. Mark Schrock has since been ordained and is the present elder of the church. He is also the executive secretary of Northern Indiana. Other ministers who have served here at various times are: Clyde C. Cripe, Martin Hartman and John Mishler. These all have served in the free ministry.

In 1924 Clement Bontrager began serving as pastor. He was followed in 1926 by H. A. Claybaugh, who served until 1933. Other pastors in order were: Burton Metzler, 1933-36; T. G. Weaver, 1936-37; Ira E. Long, 1937-41; Harold Miller, 1941-45; Mark Schrock and B. D. Hirt each served a year since. Hugh Cloppert began pastoral service in 1948. He came from Southern Ohio, and has done outstanding work in the ministry. In the fall of 1950 the Middlebury and the Pleasant Valley congregations formed a joint program with T. G. Weaver as pastor.

Deacons in this congregation have been: Lewis Cripe, John



Zimmerman, John Troyer, George Sherck, A. C. Kindy, Chancey Berkey, Frank Nusbaum, E. S. Kauffman and George Arnold.

Sunday School was organized here in 1913 with Clarence Troyer as superintendent. Others serving since have been: Mel Haines, E. S. Kauffman, Ben Leer, John Steele, Glenn Kindy, Ray Ulrich, Glen Bowman, Alvin Steele, Kenneth Myers and Paul Garber.

The church has had a healthy growth. It numbered 95 when organized and now has 151. It celebrated its thirty-fifth anniversary at the 1946 Harvest Meeting, with Jesse Zeigler of Bethany as speaker.

#### **YELLOW RIVER (1848-1926); MT. PLEASANT (1926)**

Originally, this congregation embraced the eastern half of Marshall County, including the present churches of Walnut, Camp Creek and Bremen, as well as that of Mt. Pleasant. The church was organized in 1848 with 21 members. Jacob Shively was the first minister; George Kring and John Stockman were the first deacons. From 1850 to 1880 the following were called to the ministry: Nathaniel Drake, Jonathan Swihart, John Sellers, William Myers, Fred Loganbaugh, David Shively, George Armentrout, William Clark, and D. S. Hale. Later, William Reed, John Joseph and Edward Ruff moved in. Within thirty years, Walnut, Bremen and Camp Creek had been organized, reducing the membership by 130 members, and greatly diminishing the territory. In 1880 when the first house of worship was built, there were 100 members.

From 1869 to 1872 Salem College at Bourbon was run under the direction of the Brethren. Eld. Jacob Shively was one of the promoters. Its failure brought financial embarrassment to him. He then moved to the Salem Church, west of Plymouth but continued as elder until 1878 when he was succeeded by John Sellers, who had charge until 1899.

In 1900, Emanuel Shively, son of Elder Jacob Shively was called to the ministry at the age of 50 years. For a time he was the only minister here. His son-in-law, N. O. Troyer, was a minister here for a while. Later, S. S. Keller, George Harley and Floyd Leeper were elected. D. W. Hostetler lived here for a while. Since 1900 the church was presided over by nonresident elders much of the time. C. C. Cripe was presiding elder from 1923 to 1935 except for two years when David Metzler was elder.

The church was served by free ministry until 1925 when John Eberly came for a short time. Arthur Miller and John Metzler each served for a short time. Gorman Zook began part time service and continued until 1935. Since then, N. H. Miller has served the Mt. Pleasant and Camp Creek Churches as pastor and elder, giving part time service to each church.

A live Sunday School has been in operation here for many years,



but we have no record of the superintendents until 1922 when Harley Elliot was elected. Since then these have served: Clarence Stump, Owen Price, Wendall Miller, Willard Sellers, Gilbert Dillingham, Arthur Kitch and Clifford Fish, each serving two to five years.

Quite a number of deacons have served the church during her history, among them being: George Kring, John Stockman, David Stockman, Peter Ganshorn, Isaac Shively, Peter Swoverland, Joseph Perry, Darlin Hale, Daniel Shively, William Rohrer, Herbert Craig, John Devinney, Joseph Studebaker, James Seymore, William Seymore, S. B. Yoder, Isaiah Price, Charles Sellers, Frank Markley, John Mann, Russell Hanawalt, and Charles Price. The present force of deacons are, Willard Sellers, Harley Elliot, Arthur Kitch, Wendall Miller and Clifford Fish.

Phillip Zinn and David Welborn were licensed to the ministry here in 1946, but both have moved away. The church now numbers 135 and is in a good condition.

#### **NAPPANEE (1898)**

Originally the Nappanee Church was a part of the Turkey Creek Congregation. The brethren began preaching in the town in 1877, when the town was only two years old. In 1883 it was decided to build a church house in Nappanee, and it was begun at once and dedicated May 24, 1884. The congregation was organized as a separate church in July, 1898, with a membership of 148. The building has been improved to meet the needs of a growing congregation. Both the church and the parsonage are on East Market St., in the east part of town, on U. S. Road 6.

The following have been elected to the ministry in this congregation: David Metzler, 1899; ordained, 1904; Everett Phippen, and William Overholser, 1907; Burton Metzler, 1917, ordained 1930; John Metzler and Warren Heestand, 1921, John Metzler ordained in 1933; Theodore Miller, 1930; John Metzler Jr. licensed in 1945, installed in 1948. Of these, William Overholser is a pastor at Warsaw, Ind.; Burton Metzler is the head of the Bible Department in McPherson College, Kans.; John Metzler leads the CROP organization for relief, in Chicago; Theodore Miller lives in Southern California; John Metzler Jr. is a teacher in Puerto Rico.

Elder J. C. Murray was elder in charge at the time of the organization and remained for five years; S. F. Sanger was elder for four years; David Metzler was elder for one year and after an interval of two years when Daniel Wysong was elder in charge, he was in charge for eight years; after another interval of two years while Bro. J. W. Grater and J. F. Appleman were in charge, he was again



elected and remained for twenty-five years. In 1944 Bro. Leroy Fisher was elected as elder and remained for four years. Bro. Ray Zook was elder for one year; Eldon Evans is the present elder.

The following men have served as pastor of the congregation: J. C. Murray, David Metzler, Daniel Wysong, J. F. Appleman, William Fisher, Galen Royer Jr., Paul Studebaker, H. D. Emmert, M. J. Weaver, J. O. Winger, Reuben Boomershine, Ray Zook and Samuel Longenecker, the present pastor. The first twelve named have rendered fifty years of pastoral service. The church observed its fiftieth anniversary celebration in 1948.

The following deacons have been installed in office: William Kensing and Charles Reed in 1903; Everett Pippen and B. J. Miller in 1907; Paul Longenecker, Frank Lehman and Floyd Klaus in 1921; John Shively, Charles Holderman and Aura Curtis in 1928.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1887 with Lovina Shoemaker as superintendent; the first Home Department superintendent was Amanda Blosser and the first Cradle Roll superintendent was Cora Stahly.

A Ladies' Aid Society was organized at the beginning of the organization of the church and has continued faithfully until the present time, later being organized with all departments into the Women's Work. Their present officers are Hazel Curtis, president and Almeda Geyer as vice-president.

A Men's Work has been organized in recent years and is being ably directed by Edward Eastland and James Schrock as chief officers.

The Young People organized a Christian Workers' Meeting in the early years of the church in which old and young took part. This later was developed into a C. B. Y. F. organization at the present time.

The church now numbers 243, an increase of 95 members in fifty years. The total number of people holding membership in this congregation during the fifty years was over 1100. Only five of the charter members remain: David Stahly and wife, John Adams, Dora Reed and David Metzler.

### **NEW PARIS (1918)**

In 1915 the members of the north end of the Bethany congregation felt a need for a church in New Paris. Sunday School was being held in the High School building. Late in the year consent was given by the Bethany congregation for a new church to be built. In the spring of 1916 sufficient funds were raised and construction was begun. After the masonry was completed and the rafters up, the building collapsed. This was a great disappointment to the few who were struggling for a new church. The ruins were left till the next year



when new interest was aroused and work was begun again. The building was completed and dedicated in December, 1917. After this the New Paris group asked the mother church to be a separate congregation and the division was accomplished Sept. 18, 1918. The new organization was begun with about fifty members and Bro. Manly Deeter in charge of the organization. Bro. Charles Arnold was elected as their elder; Bro. and Sister Jacob Martin and Bro. and Sister Artie Berkey were elected as deacons, a committee being chosen to divide the equipment of the Bethany Church.

The membership grew rapidly, doubling itself the first year. In order to meet the needs of the growing congregation, it became apparent that more room was needed for the Sunday School classes. So in 1935 an addition was built to the church, furnishing six additional class rooms, a mother's room and a kitchen. Various other improvements were made at different times until it has come to be a modern, convenient and adequate building. A recreational building has been built just across the street, which fills the social needs of the church.

A number of young men have been called to the ministry here. Russell Bollinger was called in 1922. He was ordained to the eldership here. Later he began service as a College teacher, first at Ashland College in Ohio and later at Manchester College, where he is now Dean of Students. Levi Arnold was called to the ministry here, but is now living and teaching school in Elkhart. Eldon Evans and Raymond Hoover were called to the ministry in 1939, advanced in 1940, and Bro. Evans was ordained in 1941. He has been elder in charge since 1943. Donald Keifer was licensed to the ministry in 1940 and advanced in 1942. He has since moved away. Robert Fryman was licensed in 1947. Other ministers who have moved in and serve at the present time are: Virgil Mock, Iverson Mishler, Charles Gump, Arthur Sellers, Noble Bowman and William Brubaker. The church has never had a supported ministry.

This congregation has always been very much interested in missions and has contributed heavily to its support. Bro. and Sister Orville Sherman went in February 1949 under the Brethren Service Commission to administer relief in Venezuela, South America. The church and various Sunday School classes are partially supporting Chalmer Shull in India; and Harold Royer in Africa. They fully supported Edith Bosler and her work in Africa; also furnish one-half maintenance of Marilyn Studebaker, Dr. Studebaker's daughter. Besides, and in addition to the above, individuals fully support Dr. Leonard Blickenstaff in India.

The church maintains an active Men's Work, Women's Work, and C.B.Y.F., and is active in all lines of church activity. It is in a



flourishing condition with a present membership of 366, a gain of 316 in thirty-one years.

#### **NEW SALEM (1911)**

The New Salem Church was organized as a separate congregation in 1911. It had been a part of the Bethel Church prior to this. The ministers residing here at that time were John Stout, Emerald Jones and Manly Deeter, the first being elder in charge. Emerald Jones was called to the ministry soon after the organization and Russell Stout was elected in 1927. He has since moved to Mishawaka. Orvin Kilmer was licensed to the ministry in 1945. Other elders in charge of the congregation for short periods of time were: J. C. Murray, Henry Wyson, Emerald Jones, C. C. Cripe, William Overholser, Lee Cory, Manly Deeter and Howard Kreider, who served for 15 years. Lester Young is the present elder.

In 1920 the church called Elder R. M. Lantis from Greenville, Ohio, as their first pastor, who served for two years. William Overholser followed, also for two years. Russell Sherman served for one year, John Eberly for three years, Russell Weller for two years—all on a part-time basis. Howard Kreider served the church for fifteen years, the last four years as full-time pastor. Paul Lantis, son of the first pastor, began a full-time pastorate in September, 1949.

Charter deacons were Sam Ulery, George Grady and Chester Byerly.

The following have served as deacons in the congregation, together with the date of their election: Fred Byerly, 1911; by letter, Samuel Driver, 1912; Chas. Mathews, 1913; Earl Ulery, 1918; Chauncey Weybright, Irvin Ferverda, and Guy Leatherman, 1920; Edward Smith and Ray Ferverda, 1922; Guy Morehouse, by letter, 1924; Emory T. Cooper, by letter, 1929; Noah Endsley by letter, 1932; Albert Matthews and Herbert Morehouse, 1944.

The congregation has had a good Sunday School all through the years. The following have served as superintendents, most of them for but a year or two at a time: Gertrude Hartman, Fred Byerly, John DeFries, Oliver Replogle, Chester Byerly, William Paul, Guy Leatherman, Earl Ulery, Arch DeFries, Ray Ferverda, Bert Christman, who served for five years, Herbert Morehouse, Albert Matthews, Louise Morehouse, Dane Rarick and Edwin Meek.

A parsonage was purchased in 1942. The congregation is in a good working condition, having maintained a steady growth. Its present membership is 168.

#### **NORTH LIBERTY (1917)**

This congregation was originally the extreme southwest part of



what formerly was called the South Bend congregation, later known as the North Liberty Church, which included a large territory, much of St. Joseph County. It was separated from the mother congregation in 1917, and includes only the town of North Liberty and the adjacent community. The rest of the territory became known as the Oak Grove Church after the division of territory.

The church house was purchased from another denomination in 1903, and the two houses were operated as one congregation until the separation in 1917. Ministers living here and preaching at both places under the free ministry plan were Elders Daniel Whitmer, Daniel Hartman, M. I. Whitmer and J. M. Cripe; also ministers, Elmer Heim, C. C. Cripe and H. S. Bowers.

After North Liberty became a separate congregation, Brethren Eli Heestand, Jacob Hildebrand and Howard Dickey each served as elder in charge for one year; J. F. Appleman for four years; Orville Houser for five years; C. C. Cripe for 15 years, Ira Long for five years, and E. Wayne Gerdes since, 1950.

Since its organization North Liberty has had pastoral care, most of the time on part-time basis. J. C. Brumbaugh and Howard Dickey taught school and served the church. I. J. Kreider, T. F. Henry, John Barwick, Guy West and Russell Weller served the church while attending Bethany Biblical Seminary. Other pastors since were Cecil Morningstar, T. G. Weaver, Theodore Miller, Fred Flora, Ervin Weaver, Mark Schrock for a few months and Ira Long 1944-1950, and Homer Shrock since 1950. Orville Houser is a faithful elder who has lived here since the organization of the church and has co-operated in a fine way. Carl Kime is a young man who was licensed to the ministry in 1947. He is a conscientious objector to war, willing to suffer to uphold the principles of peace.

The present deacon body are Grant Steele, Delbert Baughman, Orville Peterson, Jacob Strycker, and Richard Whitmer. The church has had a live Sunday School since its organization. The following have served as superintendents: Jerry Peters, Morvan Clark, Grant Steele, Harmon Summers, Paul Steele, Orville Houser, Richard Whitmer and Anna Strycker. There is also an active Women's Work organization.

The church house was remodeled in 1923. A parsonage was purchased in 1944, which was later remodeled and dedicated. There is an encouraging outlook here with a present membership of 189.

**New Paris**

**North Liberty**

**North Winona**

**Pine Creek**

**New Salem**

**North Webster**

**Osceola**

**Pleasant Chapel**







**TIPPECANOE (1852-1929; NORTH WEBSTER 1929)**

This congregation is located in the northeastern part of Kosciusko County, south of Lake Wawasee. It was organized in 1852 with thirty-five members. A house of worship was built in 1861 about 2½ miles north of North Webster. In 1882 the membership was 140. Elder G. P. Rothenberger was bishop here for many years. In later life he was assisted in the ministry by his son, Daniel, who followed him in the care and oversight of the church. I. S. Grady was called to the ministry and advanced to the second degree in 1906. He later moved to Goshen. F. O. Richcreek was called to the ministry in 1899, advanced in 1906, and ordained in 1911. He was elder in charge for a number of years. Virgil Mock was called to the ministry here. He later moved to New Paris. John Eberly was installed in the ministry here in 1923, and Willis Kurtz in 1944.

Among the earlier deacons serving the church here were: Josiah Garber, E. Hess, H. Schrock, Daniel Shock, Henry Kolburg, Ira Mock, Elmer Shock, Josiah Kline and Levi Eberly.

The church gradually lost in numbers until it was struggling for existence. Finally in 1922, with the help of the District Mission Board, the church and property belonging to the Evangelical denomination on South Main St. in North Webster was purchased and the old location in the country was abandoned. Since that time the work has been under the support and supervision of the Mission Board. In 1929 the name of the congregation was changed from Tippecanoe to North Webster. The following have been pastors: John Eberly, William Overholser, Otho Warstler, Hugh Warstler (summer of 1934), Emerald Jones, Robert Knechel (summer of 1942), Lester Young, Willis Kurtz, I. James Eshleman 1946-1950, and Otto Larsen, 1950-1. Bill Gordon is the present pastor. Since the work was revived in town the following have been installed as deacons: William Tully and David Stull in 1931; Royal Kline, 1939; Ancil Likens and Millard Tom in 1947.

Since the work has been reorganized a good Sunday School has been maintained. These have been superintendent at various times: J. L. Kline, Ancil Likens, Viola Whitehead, Granville Deaton, Clarence Mock, John Reasoner, Millard Tom and Fred Blosser. The membership at present is 67.

**WASHINGTON (1860-1919); NORTH WINONA (1919)**

This congregation was organized in the early sixties from territory that belonged to both Northern and Middle Indiana. Brethren Jeremiah Gump, Ephraim Brumbaugh, Norman Workman and Levi Workman were the ministers preaching in this section. The last two lived in this congregation. They were old, and George Workman was



called to the ministry to assist them. During the early seventies, George Cripe was a resident elder here. It was during this time that Levi Workman was called to the ministry. Bro. A. H. Puterbaugh, a young minister moved here in 1874, and Jesse Calvert came in 1877. The latter was soon ordained and given charge of the church. During his service a large commodious house of worship was built three miles east of Warsaw, where the present house is located. The dedication service was held on New Years Day, 1880, Elder Calvert preaching the sermon. Later Bro. Puterbaugh was ordained and given charge of the church. He remained here until 1895 when he returned to Elkhart Valley. For some years there was a second preaching point in the congregation, known as Oak Grove.

In the meantime others had been called to official capacity. April 19, 1877, N. B. Heeter and Elijah Stoneburner were elected deacons and H. H. Brallier was called to the ministry, Bro. Brallier was ordained in 1901 and succeeded Bro. Puterbaugh in the oversight of the church. In 1885 Brethren N. B. Heeter and Levi Stoneburner were called to the ministry. Both were active here for a number of years, Bro. Heeter later moving to the Rock Run Church. Later, Clayton Whitehead and Chester Brallier were elected to the ministry. In 1910 William Overholser came from Nappanee and began pastoral service here. The work flourished and he was later assisted by Bro. and Sister L. M. Neher, who moved here from Milford; also for a time by C. W. Warstler. Dr. and Sister G. H. VanDyke, also ministers, lived here for a number of years and meant much to the work. Sister Van Dyke died here and Dr. VanDyke continued on for some time. He has since retired.

In 1916 the old house was remodeled and modernly equipped, Bro. Otho Winger preaching the dedicatory sermon. In 1919 the name of the congregation was changed from Washington to North Winona.

During the Annual Conferences of 1916, 1919, and 1922 the church sponsored lunch stands at Winona Lake.

During the later years the following have served the church here as pastors: L. U. Kreider, who soon moved to Blue River Church; Reuben Boomershine, Clement Bontrager, William Overholser, R. C. Wenger, J. S. Zigler, and the present pastor, Lester Young.

Records show the following installed as deacons: Henry Rusher, 1887; John Brumbaugh, 1891; Argus Whitehead, 1900; John Hedgington and Edwin Piper 1917; Sherman Bryant and Esta Butterbaugh, 1919; Harry Lozier, Glenn Whitehead and Amsey Roose, 1923; Russell Hanawalt, 1934, Earl Whitehead and Scott Horn, 1945.

In 1941 arrangements were made for a parsonage in the back part of the church. A new electric organ was installed and dedicated in 1948. Since 1940 a Primary Department of the Sunday School has



been organized. Among the Sunday School superintendents are: George Sutherlin, Argus Whitehead, Edward Piper, Amsey Roose, Harry Lozier, Mary Bryant, Price Bailey, Ernest Lozier, Earl Whitehead, Alpheus Shambeck, Scott Horn and Wayne Johnson. The present membership of the church is 110.

### OSCEOLA (1895)

The Osceola congregation was organized as a separate church in 1895. It was originally the northern part of the Baugo Church. According to an early record of 1895 it appears that elders, Joel Shively, Hiram Kriehbaum and a Bro. Puterbaugh; ministers, Peter Huffman and Jacob Bowers; and deacons, Jacob Coacenhour and A. K. Berkey made up the official Board of the new congregation. There had been preaching held in a certain Bowers school house prior to this time, though it was soon discontinued. The property had been purchased in 1893, though it seems a house of worship had been erected here as early as 1855. No later records are available until 1919, when there were perhaps 60 members.

From this date Burt Pontius, Harry Simpson and Peter Huffman served for the next ten years in the free ministry. Earl Nusbaum served two years as a part time pastor. Through the efforts and the support of the District Mission Board the church began full-time pastoral service in 1932 with Ervin Weaver serving until 1938. Following this, Harold Myers, Paul Lantis, Clarence Rosenberger, Arno Holderread, Carl Yoder, O. E. Messamer and Earl Nusbaum were pastors, varying in time of service from a few months to three years. Edward Stump, the present pastor, began service here in 1946. The following served as elder here: Hiram Roose, Christian Metzler, Bert Pontius, E. C. Swihart, Earl Nusbaum, and Howard Kreider. The district Mission Board served as elder while they supported the work during 1932-1944.

William Anglemyer was elected deacon here in 1919. The present deacons are, Esta Hill, Paul Singery and Marion McClurg, all elected in 1946. Arno Holderread was licensed to the ministry here in 1939 and installed in 1942. He completed his education since then and is a pastor in Middle Indiana now.

There has been a live Sunday School here since the records began in 1919, with the following acting as superintendents: Jacob Motts, Nora Heffner, Harry Simpson, William Secor, David Wisler, Nina Weldy, Carl Messick, Hallie Holderread, Paul Singery, Esta Hill and Howard Stump.

In 1935 the church house was raised and a full basement put in, greatly increasing the capacity for the Sunday School. A parsonage was purchased in 1939, which has later been remodeled. The congre-



gation is strategically located in a rapidly growing community, near the industrial and railroad centers of South Bend, Mishawaka and Elkhart, and is enjoying a healthy growth. Its present membership is 180.

### **PINE CREEK (1854)**

During the early part of the last century the Brethren came into the northern part of Indiana. A very large territory, extending from South Bend southward toward Plymouth, was included in what was called the South Bend District. Bro. Abraham Whitmer of Sump-tion Prairie came into this locality on regular dates, and preached in the homes and schoolhouses. In this way the first seed was planted from which have grown North Liberty, Pine Creek, Blissville, Center, Union, Salem and the Plymouth congregations.

They planted better than they knew. In 1852 Bro. Washington Fenson, a minister, moved within the bounds of what is now the Pine Creek Church. The same year Brother David Rupel was called to the ministry. He built his house (still standing) with large double doors, so as to use it for a house of worship as well as a home. In 1854 Pine Creek congregation was organized, with E. Fenson and David Rupel as ministers, and Bro. Abraham Whitmer of South Bend as elder.

In 1856 Brother David Rupel was ordained to the eldership and given the oversight of the church. The first deacons were William Johnson, Abraham and Michael Miller. In 1857 the official force was strengthened by the coming of John Barnhart, and the election of Brethren John Knisely and John Hoover to the ministry; also Brethren J. A. Long and Abraham Stump as deacons. Soon after that Jacob and Isaac Thomas, ministers, moved here. In 1864 Brethren David Clem, A. Abshire and A. M. Rupel were chosen to the deacon's office.

At this time the Union Church with the territory south was divided from Pine Creek. The homes and schoolhouses were too small to accommodate the people in attendance at the services. So in 1866 the East and West houses were built. The East house was built large, and used for holding love feasts.

In 1867 two ministers, Brethren Elias Steele and George Barnhart came here. Between the years 1870 and 1873 Brethren D. W. Rupel, Samuel Cullar, Jacob Hawblitzel and G. E. Steele were chosen deacons. In 1875 A. B. Peters and A. M. Rupel were elected to the ministry. The Blissville House was built in 1875, and the Center House in 1877.

These facts give evidence of the work our fathers did and the in-



fluence of the Word of God on the hearts of the people. In 1878 Brethren Allen Maurer and James Brown were chosen deacons. In 1882 Bro. Jacob Summers was elected to the ministry, and Brethren Jesse Thomas and Jacob Jimmerson were chosen deacons. About this time Brethren Jacob Hildebrand and G. M. Armentrout, ministers, moved into the congregation. In 1884 J. G. Wogoman and S. N. Eversole were elected ministers.

In 1888 Brethren Jacob Hildebrand and A. B. Peters were ordained to the eldership. Brother Levi Pippenger, a deacon came into the congregation in 1894. The following ministers moved here and remained only a short time: L. E. Miller, in 1891; Lemuel Hillery in 1894; Edward Ruff, in 1896; D. H. Weaver, in 1897; Jacob Heistand, in 1906; and John Markley, in 1912. Brethren William Long, M. C. Morris, and C. F. Rupel were chosen to the deacon's office in 1897.

In 1898 Bro. C. F. Rupel was elected to the ministry; Brethren David Ruff and S. Burkholder were chosen deacons, and A. M. Rupel was ordained as elder. In 1902 Bro. Lafayette Steele was elected to the ministry; Brethren G. Stump, Jacob Freed and Christian Kilian were chosen deacons. In 1904, C. F. Rupel and Lafayette Steele were advanced to the second degree of the ministry. In 1910 Brethren William Summers and William Kilian were chosen to the deacon's office. In 1912 Bro. James Kessler was elected to the ministry and Lafayette Steele was ordained elder.

In June 1912 the southern part of the congregation asked for the privilege of organizing into a separate congregation, which was granted them. The organization became known as the Blissville congregation. This left Pine Creek with but two houses of worship. In 1917 a new congregation was organized in North Liberty, so the West House was torn down and the members in the northwest part of the congregation transferred their membership there. The condition of the East House became such that the congregation decided to remodel it. That was done with credit to everyone that helped in the work.

In January, 1950, an extensive remodeling program was begun. During that year the basement was completely changed and reconstructed to provide 10 classrooms, a kitchen and a furnace room. It is now equipped with suitable furniture, oil-furnace, and fluorescent lighting. Early this year the main audience room was changed about. The pulpit was placed at the east end with baptistry behind; a balcony fitted for class rooms is at the west end, with mother's room and class rooms below. The building is now completely modernized, being remodeled at an approximate cost of \$26,000. Eld. Jesse Ziegler, of the Bethany Seminary faculty, delivered the dedicatory address on July 8, 1951.



In 1913 Brethren Arthur Long and Jacob Gensinger were chosen deacons, and in 1914 Bro. Ira C. Eisenhour, a minister moved here. In 1915 Brethren Arthur Long, Orville Houser, and John Stump were elected to the ministry, Floyd Stump and Floyd Wilson were elected in 1928, being the last ministers elected, and they did not remain, soon moving away and placing their membership in another denomination.

Bro. A. M. Rupel was elder in charge until his death in 1914; Lafayette Steele then was elder till his death in 1918. He was followed by J. F. Appleman. In 1921, Bro. James Kessler, who had been ordained, became elder in charge. Later the following came in order named: Edward Stump, 1927-28; J. O. Kessler, 1929-31; H. A. Claybaugh, 1932-38; John Stump, 1939-43; J. O. Winger, 1944; Galen Bowman since 1945. The last deacons elected were Brethren Willard Stump, Richard Stump, and Walter Keiser in 1942, and Roy Freeman, Cecil Keiser and Harry Truax in 1943.

The congregation was always served by free ministry until in 1932 when H. A. Claybaugh became pastor. Others since have been: Theodore Miller, 1937-40; J. E. Whitacre, 1941-43; Perry Hoover, 1944; Neils Esbensen, 1945; E. Wayne Gerdes the present pastor, since 1947.

Pine Creek has for many years been much interested in missions. For one year the members supported a native child in China. Winnie E. Cripe went out from this congregation as a missionary to China in 1911, and served until her death in 1934. Her home congregation assumed her support for most of the time she was in the field. Since her death they have contributed liberally to the Brotherhood funds.

For many years the congregation has maintained a flourishing Sunday School. There is no record of those who supervised it until 1920. Since then, Delbert Mangus, Frank Keiser, Reuben Houser, Orla Baughman, Russel Clark, Cecil Keiser, Rollo Manges, Harry Rowe, Willard Stump, Harry Truax and Robert Baughman have served terms as superintendent.

The congregation has always been one of the strong churches in the district, and from a careful reading it will be noted that many strong leaders have served in various capacities. The present membership is 359.

#### **PLEASANT CHAPEL (1921)**

The Pleasant Chapel Church was originally the north part of the Cedar Lake Congregation. It was organized in 1920 with John Urey elder, Ellis McClish clerk, and S. C. Perkins treasurer, and was recognized as a separate congregation in 1921.

For some years prior to the organization of the congregation, J. H. Elson, Daniel Phillips and others had been preaching in the Putt



school house and in the nearby Mennonite Church.

A Sunday School was first organized in 1912 with S. C. Perkins superintendent, Sister Verda Myers chorister, Sister Mabel Perkins secretary, Bro. Vern Myers, treasurer. This was on the first Sunday in January and, although the mercury stood at 18 degrees below zero, there were twenty-four members present. During the next eight years several revival meetings were held and more than sixty new members were baptized.

In 1917 the Mennonite Church building was purchased. It was remodeled the next year and several times since. Under the leadership of Joseph Ober, building chairman, the church plant was completely remodeled and enlarged during 1949-50. Dedicatory services were held Sept. 17, 1950. Speakers at the all day meeting were Ivan Fry, R. A. Sherman and Claude Leslie.

Since 1925 the congregation has been under the pastoral care of Clyde C. Cripe, Galen Bowman, Russell Sherman, for more than ten years, and Kenneth Long, all working on a part-time basis. Since 1944 Bro. Claude Leslie has served in the free ministry. Melvin Ritchie served as summer pastor in 1948. Ivan Fry was summer pastor in 1949.

Succeeding Eld. J. H. Urey the elders in charge have been Galen Bowman, Russell Sherman, Kenneth Long, at intervals the District Mission Board, and at present, Bro. Charles Light.

Those who served as deacons in the early years of the congregation were S. C. Perkins and Ellis McClish. Since 1930 the following deacons and wives have been installed: Ernest and Daisy Pairan, Joseph and Alvadah Ober, Carl and Irma Thomas and Ray and Rebah Skelly, Russell Perkins and wife, Dale Thomas and wife, and John Reinold and wife.

Since its beginning the Sunday School has flourished under the leadership of S. C. Perkins, the first superintendent, Ellis McClish, Russell Perkins, Carl Thomas, Walter Eldredge, Ocie Hamman, Russell Hartman, Ralph Kanaga and Dale Thomas. The regular average attendance is about one hundred. The Pleasant Chapel congregation has a real challenge for service in the local community. The present membership is 114.

### **PLEASANT HILL (1873)**

The history of the organization and early work of Pleasant Hill is to be found in that of the Cedar Creek Church. It was organized as a separate congregation in 1873, with twenty-five members. In 1875 they built their church house four miles northeast of Churubusco. Jeremiah Gump was their only minister and the presiding elder until 1908. Manford Hufford, Nathan Johnson and William Finney were the deacons at that time. Later on the church called to the ministry



William Finney, Alda Fisher and Jesse Gump in 1898; Elmer Pepple and Charles Gump in 1910; Russel Pepple in 1942; Arlo Gump in 1944; and Glen Stauffer in 1948. Bro. Jesse Gump has served in the ministry for more than fifty years and still lives in Churubusco. Charles Gump and Elmer Pepple were ordained in 1931, Bro. Gump later moving to New Paris. Russel Pepple was ordained in 1946 and is now a pastor in Southern Illinois. Arlo Gump was ordained in 1948 and served as pastor of the Cedar Creek Church until 1949. He is now Regional Director of the Young People's work in the Central Region. Everett Chapman was ordained here in 1939. David M. Hart who was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1836, and came to Lagrange County, Ind. at the age of three weeks, probably united with the church at Shipshewana. He was called to the ministry here in 1878.

The Pleasant Hill Church has always been served by the free ministry. Since Bro. Jeremiah Gump died in 1912, the following have served as elder in charge at various intervals. Jesse Gump, Hiram Forney, S. J. Burger, Charles Gump, and Elmer Pepple, since 1945.

In the later years Wyland Zumbrum, Roy Gump, Arlo Pepple, Lloyd Pepple, Glen Pepple and Raymond Larue have been called to the deacon's office. In the early part of 1950, Raymond Larue was licensed to the ministry. Two missionaries have gone out from this church, Dr. and Mrs. Howard Bosler, and have served several terms on the African Mission Field, especially at the Garkida Leper Colony, first going to the field in 1931.

The first Sunday School was organized here in 1875 with William Finney as superintendent. Among the later superintendents have been Sister Aldia Disler, Roy Gump, Elmer Pepple, C. O. Gump, Wyland Zumbrum and Everett Chapman. There has been a very active organization of Women's Work here, doing much work for relief and for missions as well as in local projects.

Two important events in recent years were the complete remodeling and modernizing of the church basement, and the observance of the fiftieth anniversary in the ministry for Bro. Jesse Gump.

The congregation has been unusually successful in saving their children to the church, which fact has helped greatly to maintain the membership of the church, which at the present numbers 70.

#### **PLEASANT VALLEY (1878)**

The Pleasant Valley congregation was once a considerable part of the Rock Run congregation. The early preaching was done by Jacob Berkey and other brethren. The division of territory occurred in 1878. The first minister was Joseph Hoover who had been elected in the Rock Run Church in 1868. A. A. Wise, Richard Hout, David Nihart, Samuel Cripe and Chester Gate were the first deacons. The



churchhouse, built in 1867, is located three miles northwest of Middlebury. The dedication services were conducted by Elder Jesse Calvert, who followed with a series of meetings.

In 1876 Elder J. B. Shoemaker of Ohio, moved in and was given the oversight of the church. In 1880 Joseph Hoover was advanced and later given charge of the congregation. Abraham Wise was the first minister elected. He and Levi Dake, who had moved in the congregation, were later advanced. Later ministers elected were: Christian Schrock, J. Edson Ulery, J. H. Schrock, J. L. Mishler, Clyde C. Cripe, Ira E. Weaver and Cyrus Steele. During this time too, thirteen deacons were elected. Resident elders of the congregation have been: J. B. Shoemaker, Moses Weaver, Joseph Hoover, Christian Schrock, J. H. Schrock, J. H. Fike, and J. L. Mishler. Adjoining elders having charge at different times have been Lemuel Hillery, Levi Hoke and I. L. Berkey.

In 1913 the congregation consisting of about 200 members, was about equally divided into two congregations. The south part took the name of Middlebury and the north part retained the original name. In 1916 the membership numbered 83 and J. L. Mishler was the presiding elder.

Since then, other names appear on the ministerial list. Galen Bowman and Homer Schrock were advanced in 1918 and ordained in 1923. Noble Bowman was advanced in 1924 and ordained in 1930. Ralph Schrock and Ernest Bowman were licensed in 1942 and advanced a year later. John Tomlinson was licensed in 1948.

The role of deacons elected show the following names: Elvin Leer and Luther Welbaum in 1920; Chester Franks and Kedric Grove, 1942; Harold Hershberger and Stewart McClain, 1945. The church was always served by the free ministry until 1947, when Homer Schrock was called as pastor. T. G. Weaver is the present pastor. Later elders in charge have been J. H. Fike, 1919-22; Homer Schrock, 1922-28; Galen Bowman, 1928-38; Homer Schrock, since 1938.

A good Sunday School has continued for many years. The later superintendents being Ernest Bowman, Leslie Berkey, Lester Franks, Ralph Schrock, Kedric Grove, Don Schrock, Chester Franks and Harold Hershberger.

Organizations of Men's and Women's Work, Young People's Work have continued for many years. The church has a membership of 110 and presents a hopeful outlook.

#### **PLYMOUTH (1916)**

The Plymouth Church was organized March 25, 1916. It had been a part of the Union Church before, which in turn, had been part



of the Yellow River Church (now Mt. Pleasant). In January, 1916, the brethren and sisters living in Plymouth received permission to start a Sunday School for a three month period, with N. O. Troyer in charge. On Feb. 28, they asked the Union Church and the District Mission Board to hold preaching services twice a month, which was granted; the Union Church taking one Sunday and the Mission Board the next. The Church was located in a hall, known as the Dr. Wood Hall, in the 100 block on North Michigan St. N. O. Troyer and wife, Pearl, Ira Mock and wife, Julia, Edith Mock, Edith Troyer and Frederick Marsh were the initial organizers and workers. March 25, 1916 they felt strong enough, and asked to be organized as a separate congregation, which was granted. The organization was effected by elders S. F. Hendricks, J. F. Appleman, John Markley and J. H. Schrock, with 29 charter members. There were two deacons, Ira Mock and Andrew Bottorff. The first officers of the church were: trustees, Ira Mock, Andrew Bottorff and S. E. Ruff; treasurer, Owen Price; clerk and S. S. secretary, Edith (Mock) Burroughs. The first communion was held in the Wood Hall with the Union Church on a 50-50 basis, being an unusual experience.

On May 18, 1918 the present church site was purchased at the corner of Garro and Water Streets, for \$2500. The remodeled dwelling was used for services for two years, when it was sold, services being held in the Gem Theater across the street while a new house was being built. The new house was dedicated in September, 1921. In 1937 the house was remodeled and enlarged to meet the needs of the growing congregation.

The first elder of the congregation was J. F. Appleman. Then followed in the order named; E. L. Heestand, David Metzler, The District Mission Board, Clyde Joseph, C. C. Cripe, James Beahm, Howard Kreider and E. Wayne Gerdes, the present elder.

At first the church was served by free ministry, the following preaching occasionally: N. O. Troyer, Cecil Reed, Theodore Miller, Ben Stoner and Floyd Leeper. In 1916 the Mission Board placed E. L. Heestand there as pastor, who served for two years. Bro. J. F. Appleman served as pastor until his death in 1933. G. G. Canfield served for five years; Arthur Keim served for seven years, during which time he was ordained as elder. Bro. Merlin Cassel has served as pastor since 1946.

A growing Sunday School has continued from the beginning, with the following acting as superintendents at various times: S. E. Ruff, Ivo Weaver, Arthur Miller, Cecil Reed, Howard Dickey, Ray Price, Harry Rohrer, Ray Welborn, Merton Snyder, Emory Reed, Clifford Fish, Harry Cripe, and Ivan Syler.

In 1945 the church felt the need for expansion and a building



fund was established. In 1946 the trustees were authorized to purchase a new building site, which was obtained in January, 1947. It is located on North Michigan Street, where a new and adequate building is being erected. A sizable fund has already been raised for this purpose.

The present force of deacons include, Harvey Markley, Edward Price, Harry Rohrer, Ora Burroughs, Harry Cripe, Cecil Markley Clifford Fish, Harold Markley, Otto Burroughs, Carl Coplen and Earl Nifong. The present membership is 303.

### **ROCK RUN (1850)**

The first members of what is now the territory of the Rock Run congregation belonged to the Elkhart congregation, where Elder Daniel Cripe and others served their people. Most of these had moved in from Ohio. Among others, we have the names of Jonathan Myers, Jacob Bechner, Joshua Perry, Samuel Ulery, Samuel Stutsman, Daniel Stutsman and Samuel Cripe.

In 1848 Jacob Berkey moved in from Somerset County, Pa. The members soon recognized that he possessed unusual ability. In 1850 the church was organized with Elder Jacob Studebaker of Goshen as the first elder. On the same day Jacob Berkey was elected to the ministry and in a short time was advanced and ordained.

In these early days the Rock Run congregation had the services of another able preacher, James Tracy, who had moved in from Ohio to South Bend, and then to Rock Run, where the members assisted him in buying forty acres. He was an able man, but soon sickened and died of typhoid fever, 1857. He is buried in the Dierdorff Cemetery at the south end of Goshen.

The first church house was built in 1855. It was a frame structure, 30 by 40 ft. Elder Jacob Berkey who was now in charge of the congregation, lived right across the road from the church, and his home was a kind of hotel to brethren from a distance, and also many of the home brethren.

Some of the early deacons were Samuel Stutsman, John Studebaker, Jacob Stutsman, Daniel Perry, David Evans and Jonathan Myers. Josiah Rensberger was a deacon and the church clerk for years. Levi Weaver moved into the congregation from Smithville, Ohio, shortly after the death of Elder Tracy. He was the father of John Weaver, later elder of the congregation. David Hostettler was

**Pleasant Hill**

**Plymouth**

**Salem**

**Second South Bend**

**Pleasant Valley**

**Rock Run**

**First South Bend**

**Syracuse**







elected in the congregation, but died in a few years. In 1868 I. L. Berkey and Joseph Hoover were elected. The former was the son of Jacob Berkey and was the successor of his able father. Bro. Hoover belonged to the Pleasant Valley congregation and was its elder for years.

In the meantime Elder Jacob Berkey had been busy preaching in the territory to the north and east as far as Ft. Wayne. His strong appeals to sinners resulted in the conversion of many scattered over this territory. He did not leave them without care, but made frequent visits himself. He was very careful with the deacon's visit. David Evans, one of these brethren, said that Elder Berkey would first carefully counsel the deacon brethren and send them forth. The work generally consumed a week.

One reason for the rapid growth of the church was the protracted meetings in which Elder Berkey was a believer. Perhaps the first such meeting in Northern Indiana was held at Rock Run, by Daniel Sturgis and Jesse Calvert in the early sixties. They were at Council Meeting when one man asked for baptism. By the time they reached the water there were six applicants. Meeting was announced for that night, and continued until there were more than forty. In a second meeting, held by Jacob S. Cripe, of South Bend, sixty-four united with the church. At another time forty united with the church under one week's preaching by Jesse Calvert. The general division of the church in the early eighties did not affect the Rock Run Church much, though for some years, little was done. Then through the able assistance of Elder I. D. Parker a splendid revival was held, resulting in thirty-eight additions.

Rock Run was one of the earliest churches to engage in Sunday School. As early as 1865 a number of brethren took interest in a Sunday School that was being conducted by some Methodists in a school house. In 1868, I. L. Berkey became superintendent and the school was moved into the church. Simon Burket was superintendent of the first evergreen Sunday School.

Later elections resulted in the calling to the ministry, B. F. Stutsman in 1880, who died in 1897; John E. Weaver and Melvin Rensberger, 1893; George Phillips, J. Fred Ulery, George Weybright who was in the ministry but a short time, and last of all, Mervin Cripe. George Phillips was pastor of the Elkhart City Church, and Mervin Cripe is pastor in Ohio. N. B. Heeter moved into the congregation in 1897. Charles C. Cripe, a young minister, married Amanda Pletcher, granddaughter of Levi Weaver. He was advanced here in 1908 and lived here for several years. Walter Gibson moved here in 1914 and lived here for some years.

The congregation was under the leadership of free ministry until



1920. Then George Phillips became a summer pastor. Following him, Ervin Weaver came as the first regular pastor in 1923; Ira Long was pastor four years; J. S. Zigler followed him and remained for thirteen years. He was followed by Howard H. Keim Jr. The present pastor, Ralph Petry, came in 1946 from North Dakota.

The land on which the first church was built was bought from Jacob and Sarah Berkey in 1859 for \$25. The second house was built in 1876 at a cost of \$2675. This house burned in 1928, and the present house was built at a cost of \$16,000, being dedicated Dec. 2, 1928. The District Meeting of Northern Indiana was held here in 1893, 1903 and 1913. The Annual Meeting was held in the barn of Elder Jacob Berkey in 1868.

The congregation has always been well supplied with deacons, among the earlier ones being: Simon Burket, John Myers and Jonathan Myers. Others elected later: Samuel Culler and Chancey Myers, 1886; John A. Miller and Robert Davenport, 1895; Melvin Schrock, 1903; Frank Phillips, 1907; Jacob Cripe and Thomas Cripe, 1895; Clarence Cripe, 1917; O. W. Stine, 1922; Paul Phillips and George Weybright, 1946.

Among the earlier superintendents of the Sunday School were: Simon Burket, Robert Davenport, Allen Cripe, Charles Myers and Ira Myers. Those serving later were; Clarence Cripe, Henry Cripe, Melvin Swartz, William Pletcher, Frank Phillips, Artie Berkey, O. W. Stine, Paul Phillips, Otis Larimer, Ernest Hartsough, Donald Cripe, George Weybright, Warren Charlton and William Cable.

In 1925 the church purchased the parsonage farm, which was formerly the I. L. Berkey home, and will be kept as a memorial for him. The church numbers 179 at present and continues in a healthy condition under the able leadership of their pastor, Ralph Petry and his fine corps of officials.

In Sept. 1950, the church observed the centennial of its organization with appropriate services. Bro. Kenneth Morse, present editor of the Gospel Messenger, was the guest speaker.

#### SALEM (1880)

The Salem congregation was formerly a part of the Union Church, being organized as a separate congregation in 1880. Prior to this a house had been built on the Marshall-Starke County line. It is said that all the rough lumber used in the building was donated by a Mr. Vorhis, not a member, who owned a saw mill near by, the lumber being hauled by ox-team. The church was built by donation labor and the acre of ground on which the church stands was donated also.

Jacob Shively was the first elder. Daniel Shock, Solomon Yoder, Obediah Deen, John Hosiman, Eli Mock, Eli Bottorff and James



Lerch were the first deacons. Ministers elected since then were: A. J. Ferrel, John Hartsough, James Lerch, 1898, and Clyde Joseph, 1916. Deacons elected were: Jacob Hapner, Riley Ransbottom, William Ferrel, Harry Myers and Eli Mock.

For many years the church has been under the partial support and supervision of the District Mission Board. Jacob Hildebrand, Frank Hendricks, H. M. Schwalm, John Markley, Galen Bowman, Charles Cripe and Arthur Keim have been elders in charge through the years. The following have served as pastors at various times: Chester Poff, H. B. Dickey, Clyde Joseph and Ben Cross. Bro. Joseph was born near the church and lived in the vicinity most of his life. Bro. Ben Cross, the present pastor, lives in Laporte, and has served the church for a number of years.

The congregation has never had a large membership. At present there are 25 members. An evergreen Sunday School has been maintained for many years. While the records are not complete, the following are among those who have served as superintendent: Samuel Osborn, Alonzo Hagle, Myrtle Bickel, Mrs. Fred Wolfe, Richard Ransbottom and Jesse Long.

#### **FIRST SOUTH BEND (1840's)**

The South Bend Church formerly included all the southern and eastern parts of St. Joseph County. Elders Abraham Whitmer, Jacob Bowman and George Shively were among the early resident preachers. The Millers from Portage Prairie were frequent visitors to this neighboring church. The church was organized early in the 1840's. Some twenty years later the territory was divided, that to the south and west retaining the name South Bend; and that to the southeast and northeast took the name of St. Joseph.

Services were held in the houses. Later, when a school house was built on the corner of Jacob Bowman's farm, that was used as a place of worship. A meeting-house was built two miles north of South Bend, and was known as the Ulery Church. In 1877 a house was built on the corner of Miami Street and Indiana Avenue. (At that time it was on the Martin Wenger farm). This was known as the Wenger Church. It was remodeled in 1900 and a second time a few years later. Later still, it was removed and a large, modern, brick church was built and dedicated in 1922.

Two of the early ministers here who served this church were David Miller and Christian Wenger. In 1882 there were reported 140 members, with D. B. Sturgis, elder, William C. Miller, D. C. Ulery and J. B. Wrightsman assistants in the ministry. This report also included St. Joseph Valley, which had just been organized from the territory north and east of South Bend, and sometimes known as the



Ulery Church. However this congregation, St. Joseph Valley, continued only until 1921 when it was disorganized and the territory going back to the mother church.

Some of the early deacons of the South Bend Church were Henry Kring, Peter Metzger, Martin Wenger, Jacob Gross, George Moyer, Christley Lindemann, Peter Cripe and Thomas Lingley. During these years the church enjoyed the services of two able men who were not only good preachers, but were good physicians as well. They were D. B. Sturgis and Peter Wrightsman. Both were born in Tennessee. Elder D. B. Sturgis had been brought into the church through the influence of Elder Isham Gibson, in Greene County, Ill. He was ordained by Elders Isham Gibson and George Wolfe in 1841. He became a strong preacher, debater and committeeman. In 1863 he located in South Bend, where he built up a good medical practice. For twenty years he did the church good service in the ministry, part of the time as their elder. In his later years he returned to Illinois where he died at Mulberry Grove in 1897. Elder Wrightsman had endured many hardships and persecutions in the South during the war on account of his nonresistant principles. In 1870 he moved to South Bend, where he spent ten years. He was ordained in 1875 by Elder James Miller. He moved from South Bend to Kansas, and later on to Georgia.

In 1882 the church called to the ministry H. W. Krieghbaum, a son-in-law of Martin Wenger, one of the pioneer settlers. He was the first superintendent of the Sunday School when it was organized in 1878. He was ordained, and for years was the presiding elder until his death in 1912. During his oversight the name of the church was changed to that of First South Bend.

E. C. Miller was elected to the ministry here in 1900. Later on, M. D. Earley, Jacob Bowers and Samuel Borough were also called. A number of ministers moved into the congregation and were received by letter: John Brumbaugh, Robert Burger, Eli Gable, George Roop, Russell Stout and N. O. Troyer. Charles M. Yoder was called to the ministry in 1918.

The congregation was served by free ministry until 1907, when M. Clyde Horst became pastor. He was followed in 1915 by T. E. George. H. H. Helman began in 1919, and in 1925, J. Clyde Forney began a nine year term of service. He was followed in 1934 by H. F. Richards. Glen Weimer served from 1943 till 1950, when Ivan Fry supplied part of a year, and was followed, 1951, by Harper Will.

There has always been a large force of deacons in the congregation, many of them received by letter and a number being called into service at various times. Those being elected were: Charles Steele, 1911; George Keim, 1912; H. D. Holloway and I. W. Jackson, 1916; P. G. Stahly, C. M. Yoder, Glen Purkey, Jess Dickey, George Hay



and Samuel Hildebrand in 1918; Noble Frederick and Paul Weddle, 1941. Those received by letter at various times were; Samuel Bates, E. M. Butterbaugh, Clinton Callendar, M. A. Harbaugh, James Kelly, Grant Miller, John Mohler, James Newcomer, Jerry Peters, John Smith, Jacob Strycker and Roy Roesch.

The congregation has always had a good Sunday School, though the names of many of the superintendents are lacking. Among them are: Charles Yoder, P. G. Stahly, N. O. Troyer, George Roop and C. C. Hawbaker. Though the church has faced numerous problems during her history, she has continued to grow and make progress until today the membership stands at 307.

### **SECOND SOUTH BEND (1907)**

The Second South Bend congregation was organized in 1907. It was originally part of the old Portage Church, the second organized church in Northern Indiana. The brethren had built a house of worship in 1903, at the corner of Cushing and VanBuren Sts., in South Bend. The first officials were George D. Zollers, S. F. Sanger and J. W. Grater, with George Senseman and Jonas Showalter as deacons. Elder Zollers came here from Illinois and remained here until he met with a fatal accident in 1911. Bro. Sanger came from Virginia and was an able administrator, being moderator of both District and Annual Conferences. These two brethren were joint elders in charge for several years. Bro. Sanger moved to California in 1910, remaining there until his death. Bro. Grater was son-in-law to Elder Zollers. He was ordained and given charge of the church in 1912. The church later called R. O. Roose to the ministry. Brethren Daniel Hartman and Claude Ullery, elders, moved in later on. In later years Cecil Morningstar and Glen Welborn were called to the ministry. Both of these have since moved from the congregation.

For the first few years the church was served by free ministry. Later J. W. Grater served on part-time as pastor at two different times. R. O. Roose, Bert Pontius, Frank Rupel and Lester Fike each served short terms as pastor. Finally, Edward Stump became pastor and remained for 18 years, the last three years on full-time work. Since then Francis Litton from Pennsylvania came and served for a short time, resigning because of ill health. Harry Eshelman, also from Pennsylvania, came as pastor in June, 1949.

The presiding eldership has shifted considerably across the years. Bro. J. W. Grater has had charge at different times; Hiram Kriehbaum, Bert Pontius, R. O. Roose, and David Cripe each served for short periods of time. Edward Stump was elder at two different times. Ira Long and Howard Kreider each served for a few years. E. Wayne Gerdes is the present elder.



The church has a good working body of deacons. Among them are: John Austin, John Egbert, Claude Roose, Raymond Kessler, Harold E. Yoder, Louis Stroup, Edgar Carswell, Kenneth Hawblitzel, Blaine Carbiener, Roy Metzler, George Worthen, and Wayne McKinney.

For a number of years the church did not make rapid growth due to many moving in and out because of industrial conditions; but later on the membership increased so rapidly in numbers that it became necessary in 1932 to remodel the church, enlarging it and providing for better Sunday School facilities. Again, two years later, six more Sunday School rooms were added. In 1945 the church purchased a parsonage and began full-time pastoral service. The present membership is 355. Two young people, Nylita Stillwell and Clarence Snyder, have gone out in missionary service under another denomination.

### SYRACUSE (1907)

The Syracuse congregation was formerly a part of the Solomon's Creek Church (now Bethany). The house was built in 1887, and dedicated by A. H. Puterbaugh. The congregation was organized in April, 1907. J. W. Kitson, A. L. Neff and J. C. Stout were the first ministers; John Neff was the first deacon. A Sunday School was organized with Otho Warstler as superintendent. He was chosen deacon in 1907, and in 1908 was called to the ministry.

For a time the work flourished under the direction of Otho Warstler and William Jones as ministers, and John S. Neff, Jonathan Cripe, Albert Warstler, Irvin Neff and Hugh Warstler as deacons. Then the conditions changed and the work declined until but a few workers remained and there was talk of disorganization. However in 1930 the District Mission Board took over and secured J. Edwin Jarboe to hold a revival there with good results. He continued there as pastor for seven years and many were added to the church. Improvements were made on the church by adding a full basement, installing a balcony and class rooms; finally, in 1947, improvements were made again by adding rooms at the back of the church for a parsonage.

Following J. Edwin Jarboe, Ralph Rarick served the church as pastor for two years. Following this, Lee Cory, Russell Sherman and others supplied the pulpit. Later Charles Stouder, Noble Bowman and Otto Laursen served the church as pastor for short periods of time. In 1948 Bro. Clayton Mock came from Wisconsin and serves since as pastor. At present there is a very hopeful outlook for the church with a membership of 100.

During the time the District Mission Board had supervision of the work, they served as elder. Following that, Lee Cory served until 1946. Charles Cripe presided as elder, 1946-1950. Since the work has re-



vived, the following have acted as superintendent of the flourishing Sunday School: Leonard Barnhart, Guy Symmensma, Ralph Coy and Lavon Symmensma. In 1949 two fine young men, Roy Stiffler and Lavon Symmensma were licensed to the ministry and ordained to the full ministry in March, 1950. Sister Ethel Denton was also licensed to the ministry in 1949. Nov. 12, 1950, the pastor, Clayton Mock, was ordained to the eldership.

### **TURKEY CREEK (1838)**

Turkey Creek is the name of the third oldest organization of the brethren in Northern Indiana. But its boundaries are quite different now than when organized. At that time it included the southern tier of townships in Elkhart County and all of Kosciusko County that was occupied. Out of her territory a number of congregations have been formed—Nappanee, Union Center, Maple Grove, New Paris, Bethany, Bethel, Syracuse, New Salem and North Winona. In 1855 Solomon's Creek (now Bethany) was organized which included all the territory to the east and south. In 1859 Union Center was organized from the territory on the north. This left Turkey Creek only the southwest part of her original territory.

The work at Turkey Creek was begun by Elder John Leatherman, who held services in the home of Jacob Brumbaugh. For years, meetings were held in private homes. In 1854 they began to use the school house. John Leatherman was elder until his death in 1867. Then Stephen Miller was ordained and had charge until his death in 1873. Soon after this, his son, J. H. Miller was ordained and placed in charge.

The original Turkey Creek Church had built a house of worship in 1851. When the congregation was divided, this house was retained by Union Center. It is now the Maple Grove house. It was not until 1878 that the present large house was built at Gravelton, four miles east of Nappanee.

This church has called but five men to the ministry: J. H. Miller, 1868; Daniel Wyson, about 1872; Peter Stuckman, 1879; Henry Wyson, 1898; and Leroy Fisher, Oct. 5, 1913. Peter Stuckman engaged actively in the ministry for a number of years. He was one of our most successful evangelists.

The following have served this church as deacons: Robert Wyson, Daniel Ulery, L. D. Ulery, John Whitehead, Conrad Leatherman, Henry Johnson, Edward Ulery, Joseph Keck, Levi Mishler, John Pefley, William Leatherman, William Paul, H. Miller, Milton Wyson, Daniel Stouder, Moses Mishler, George Crull, Henry Moneyheffer, Mervin Mishler, George Fisher, Henry Pletcher, Melvin Reed, and Lloyd Hurst; Dale Atkinson and Clyde Rogers were elected in 1948.

In 1890 Elder J. C. Murray of North Manchester moved into the



congregation. His strong direction was needed at a time when the Progressive movement threatened to take a good part of the church. In 1899 Nappanee was organized separately and Elder Murray took charge there. Elder Daniel Wysong then had the oversight until he moved to Nappanee in 1906. Henry Wysong was elder in charge until 1925. Edward Stump had charge a year; since 1926, Leroy Fisher has been in charge of the church, and much of the time the only minister. The church has always been served by a free ministry.

The churchhouse was remodeled in 1919 by adding a small basement and installing a furnace. In 1940 it was again remodeled by enlarging the basement. On each occasion a rededication service was held with Otho Winger as speaker. On Oct. 4, 1938, centennial services were held with Otho Winger as speaker. The same day marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the election of Leroy Fisher to the ministry. On April 9, 1942 Bro. Fisher baptized Eugene Sensibaugh who was 96 years of age at that time.

There seems to be no records of Sunday School in this church prior to 1919, at which time George Fisher was superintendent. However it is known that John Felkner and Jess Eisenhower (now of Bethany Church) were superintendents before this date. Since then George Fisher, Henry Pletcher, Oscar Roose, Ada Fisher, William Ferwerda, Clarence Herr, Roy Blosser, Alice Atkinson, Joe Bontrager and Ancil Ferwerda have served at different times. The present membership of the church is 122 and the general outlook of the church is encouraging.

### UNION (1946)

The Union Church was organized about 1858 with forty members. This territory had been a part of Pine Creek, and early preaching had been done by Abram Whitmer. The first preachers here were John Knisely, Howard Hoover and Marvin Hamilton. By 1881 the membership had increased to 175, with John Knisely as the presiding bishop, Jacob G. Shively as associate; M. A. Eisenhower, W. G. Cook, Jacob Appleman, Jacob Seiders and Aaron Kriehbaum, assistant ministers. There were two meeting houses at that time, one built in 1871, four miles west and one-half mile south of Plymouth, known now as the Union house, the other one farther west on the Starke County line, later known as the Salem Church. The first service held in the Union house was the funeral of Sister John Knisely, wife of the elder of the church. This was before the church was finished inside.

Since 1881 the congregation has been divided twice. In 1895 the Salem congregation was organized. In 1916 the Plymouth Church was organized taking about one-half of the membership at that time, and a large part of the territory.

Under the able and aggressive leadership of Elder John Knisely,



Union was one of the most active churches in Indiana. As early as 1875 her people were taking an active interest in the Sunday School. Though it was not evergreen, yet a prayer meeting took its place in the winter time. Harvest meetings were held as early as 1879. The year 1881 was marked by a large ingathering of members.

There was a council meeting held Dec. 7, 1883 that was long remembered. Jesse Calvert and W. R. Deeter were visiting elders. W. G. Cook was ordained to the eldership; Jacob Seiders and Aaron Krieghbaum were advanced to the second degree of the ministry; John Hallem and John F. Appleman were called to the ministry; Edward Bottorff, A. Rarigh, James Jones, Frank Hendricks, O. Dean, Noah Replogle and John Hoover were elected deacons. It was a day of general rejoicing.

Since 1883 the Union Church has called to the ministry James Norris, Harry V. Carger and Cecil Reed, 1914. S. F. Hendricks moved into the congregation. The church has had as presiding bishops, John Knisely, Jacob Shively, Jacob Appleman, W. G. Cook, J. F. Appleman, and S. F. Hendricks. Bro. Hendricks served until 1920, passing away in 1921. Elder Eli Roose then served the church as elder for a number of years. Cecil Reed moved to Plymouth in 1921. Bro. Jesse Brown and family moved in from North Dakota and did most of the preaching for a number of years.

A number of members moved away till finally in 1929 the church was disorganized. However the churchhouse was kept in repair and opened at different times for services. In 1946 it was formally organized again as a separate congregation. Elder Herbert Zook of Laporte has been pastor and Edward Stump has been elder since then. Wesley Brubaker began pastoral service here in 1949. A good Sunday School is maintained and the present membership is 50.

#### UNION CENTER (1859)

Union Center was organized in 1859. It was formerly a part of Turkey Creek, that in turn, had been cut off from Elkhart (now West Goshen) in 1838. At that time Elder Henry Neff Sr. had charge, with John Anglemeyer and John Burkholder, ministers. These brethren were both ordained in 1876. That same year Alexander Miller was elected; he was later ordained, and for years was presiding elder. He died in October, 1905, having been blind for several years. In speaking of his affliction he used to remark, "God had to strike me blind so I could see."

The Union Center House was built in 1867, three miles east and two miles north of Nappanee. It was a large brick structure and has served the church well until this day. Elder George W. Cripe was contractor. Elder Henry Neff Sr. died in this church after preaching



a sermon. His son, Daniel Neff was elected to the ministry in 1867. Another son, Henry, was elected later.

In 1879 John R. Miller was called to the ministry. He was a cousin of Alexander Miller, both of them being grand-children of Elder John Miller, one of the first preachers of Elkhart County. Vernon Miller, a deacon, lived for many years in this congregation. His son, Harold, was called to the ministry here and is now pastor of Yellow Creek church. David H. Anglemyer, a son of John Anglemyer, was called to the ministry in 1899. He was ordained in 1906 and had charge of the church for many years. Jesse Anglemyer, a nephew of David, was called to the ministry here. After some years spent in Manchester College, he married Miss Amanda Rodabaugh, instrumental teacher in the College, and then moved to her home in the Eagle Creek Church, Ohio, where he has been pastor of the church for 45 years. Elder Eli Roose lived here for a number of years following 1902. I. C. Eisenhower made this his home church for some years. John Frederick, elected in the Yellow Creek Church, has lived here since 1908. H. L. Hartsough was elected to the ministry here in 1907. He later became a prominent pastor in Middle Indiana and Northern Illinois, and later was general secretary of the General Ministerial Board. He is now District Field Man for Middle Indiana.

Among those called to the ministry later in this congregation were David Miller, Charles Stouder Jr., Daniel Snyder, Charles Goss and Donald Frederick, son of John Frederick, now head of the Music Department in McPherson College.

Elders in charge after John Anglemyer were Daniel Neff, Henry Neff, David Anglemyer, John Frederick and David Miller. Eldon Evans of New Paris has been elder since 1945. The church was always served by free ministry until 1945 when they called Arthur C. Keim as pastor, serving till the coming of Herbert Fisher, 1950.

This church has always had a large body of deacons. Among those serving earlier were Joseph Pippenger, Franklin Anglemyer, Jonas Frederick, Joseph Stump, Leander Bigler, Charles Frederick, John Bollman, and Amos Sheets. Jesse Eisenhower was elected here but soon after moved to the Bethany Church. The present deacons are: Jess Frederick, Milt Mishler, Jesse Mishler, Curtis Sheets, William Stouder, Homer Weldy, Everett Whitehead, Harry Bigler, Everett Mishler, and Howard Slabaugh. Those last elected were Charles Stouder, Sr., and Emmert Miller, who has since moved to New Paris.

Union Center has always maintained a fine Sunday School, though the record of names of superintendents is lacking. Those serving for the past four years are, Harry Bigler, Harold Umbaugh and Amos Sheets. At one time there were four Sunday Schools in the congregation—two of them being in school houses. A Sunday School is



still being held in the South Union House, a union church two miles north and a mile west of Nappanee. While the property is owned jointly by the Mennonites, the Evangelical United Brethren and the Church of the Brethren, our people have always maintained regular preaching services there. The church was built in 1905. Charles Goss, one of our ministers of Union Center, does most of the preaching. John R. Miller, mentioned above, lived near this place and was one of the main supporters. From here Sister Ella Miller Brubaker, daughter of John R. Miller, went out as a missionary to India. It was in this part of the congregation that E. C. Miller, son of John R. Miller, and Harold Miller, mentioned above, went out as ministers. There have been all told about 130 converts in this part of the congregation.

Union Center began Intermediate Department services, morning and evening. The church built a parsonage on the church property in 1948-49. They held the first Home and Family Life local church conference in the Brotherhood, Dec. 8-12, 1948. This church, numbering 335, is one of the two largest, strictly rural, churches in Northern Indiana. It has a most hopeful outlook.

#### **WAKARUSA (1915)**

The early history of the Wakarusa congregation is recorded in that of the Baugo Church. They were one congregation until Dec. 22, 1915 when the territory was divided and the membership in and around Wakarusa became a separate congregation. Members had begun settling here for many years, a house of worship having been built in 1895. The membership of 150 was about equally divided between the two congregations.

Christian Metzler was elder in charge here until 1934, having his son-in-law, T. G. Weaver, as his helper. Bro. Weaver was elected to the ministry in 1916. For some years he was a leading elder in Middle Indiana, until in September, 1949, when he began as pastor of the Blue River Church and is now pastor at Middlebury. Otho Warstler moved in from Syracuse later on and remained here until his death in 1949.

Beginning in 1935 Wakarusa has had part time pastoral service. Lee R. Cory, Burton Metzler, H. A. Claybaugh, Harold Myers and William Smith each serving a short time. Later, Lee Cory served three years more, 1943-46. Raymond Hoover was pastor a year and Samuel Longenecker from 1947-49. Stanley Bittenger, a Manchester student gave part time service for two years. C. V. Coppock is present pastor.

Since Christian Metzler retired as presiding elder in 1934, the following have served: Edward Stump, two years. Burton Metzler, one year; Lee Cory, eight years, Theodore Miller, two years; Eldon Evans, three years; Ralph Petry is the present elder.



The congregation has maintained an active Sunday School all along, superintended by the following: T. G. Weaver, Bertha Moyer, John Searer, Roy Metzler, H. O. Metzler, Roy Summer, Grace Summer and Howard Rogers.

Edward Nusbaum, Charles Pletcher, Eli Wise, Clifford Flora, Roy Summer and Howard Rogers make up the present body of deacons. The church has 92 members now.

### WALNUT (1864)

The Walnut Church, located in the southern part of Marshall County, was organized in 1864 with 35 charter members. This territory had been a part of the Yellow River (now Mt. Pleasant) Church, to the north. Ministers from this church did the first preaching. Abram Miller was the first resident elder. Associated with him were Henry Deardorf, Aaron Huffman and Aaron Swihart. Abram Miller moved to Middle Indiana and finally went with the Old Order Brethren. Later Aaron Swihart was ordained and had charge of the church for a number of years.

During its early days the Walnut Church had no building. The members met in homes and later, in the Forest Schoolhouse, one mile north of the present church site. Communion services were held in five different barns in the surrounding neighborhood. (These five barns still stand.) Finally a house of worship was completed and dedicated in 1883, at a cost of \$1400.

Soon after this, Daniel West, a minister, moved in and George Swihart was elected. The latter was a cousin to Aaron Swihart, and a brother to Neri Swihart, who later was elected to the ministry in the Beaver Dam Church, but did most of his work in the Walnut Church. Aaron Mow (father of Anetta and Baxter Mow, missionaries in India for a period of years) was called to the ministry in the Camp Creek Church, and moved to Walnut in 1889. He spent thirteen years here. Edward Ruff and Edward Beckner were ministers here for some time. Other ministers who moved in included Noah Ritchey, James Thomas, John Christian, John Markley, D. W. Hostetler and N. O. Troyer. These all served the church a few years and then moved on except John Christian who remained here until his death in 1941. Other ministers elected here were John Huffman, John Dickey, Levi Puterbaugh, Howard Dickey and Medford Neher.

Presiding elders have been John Sellers, Aaron Swihart, J. L. Thomas, S. F. Sanger, John Dickey, J. F. Appleman, W. R. Deeter, David Metzler, John Markley, John Metzler, T. G. Weaver, C. C. Cripe, J. O. Winger, Howard Kreider and T. G. Weaver. Harper Will is the present elder.

In 1922 the Walnut Church began a full-time pastoral program.



H. A. Claybaugh, a former teacher in Bethany Biblical Seminary and street mission worker in Chicago, was secured and remained for five years. Following him came T. G. Weaver, who was principal of the Tippecanoe School and served the church on part-time for five years. Grant T. McGuire served the church for three years and then left to complete his course in the Seminary. C. C. Cripe came in 1935 and remained for ten years. Kenneth Long was pastor from 1945 to 1949. Rhett Petcher of Wisconsin became pastor in the summer of 1950.

Deacons who served here during the early years were: Jacob Miller, Jonathan Hoover, Jonathan Dickey, Henry Strycker, John McGriff, Richard Curtis, Henry Haines, Samuel Beckner, Daniel Markley, Peter Swoverland, James Dickey, Jacob Rohrer and Daniel Rohrer. Others who served later were Fred Rohrer, Tobias Heltsel, Emanuel Rohrer, Moses Beckner, William Rohrer, George Neher, Albert Huffman, Ben Jontz, David Burroughs, Noah Johnsenbaugh, Jesse Rohrer, Frank Mowiser, Walter Swihart, and more recently, Ernest Fanning, Russell Rohrer and O. E. Bollinger. The last six with the exception of Ernest Fanning who recently died, comprise the present board of deacons.

The first Sunday School was started soon after the first church was built in 1883, with James Dickey as superintendent. Others who followed him were Lewis Miller, Fred Rohrer, Howard Dickey, Albert Huffman, Fred Humbarger, Russell Rohrer, Hubert Latham and Elmer Fletcher. Russell Rohrer continued as superintendent for twenty-five years, from 1913 to 1938. Hubert Latham served for four years and Elmer Fletcher for two years. Since 1944 Russell Rohrer has served again. In the early part of the century several of the brethren carried on a summer Sunday School in three of the outlying schoolhouses. About 1900 a number of brethren asked permission to build a church in Tippecanoe. This was granted by the mother church. This was done and for a number of years Sunday School and church services were conducted here with good results. However since a number of members moved away, and some died, interest waned and the house was finally sold. In 1917 the Sunday School decided to support a missionary on the foreign field. Bro. A. T. Hoffert was assigned them and he was supported for five years.

In 1913 the old house was moved aside and a fine brick structure was built on the old site. This continued to serve the congregation well until Jan. 2, 1944 when it burned completely. But a large number

**Turkey Creek**

**Union Center**

**Walnut**

**West Goshen**

**Union**

**Wakarusa**

**Wawaka**

**Little Pine**







of members met at the parsonage the same afternoon and unanimously decided to rebuild. Because of scarcity of materials due to the war, the building could not be finished at once, but a contract was let, and the fine new, fire-proof structure was dedicated March 18, 1945, with President Schwalm of Manchester College as the speaker.

A parsonage farm of twenty acres, one-half mile south of the church was purchased in 1928. This was a fine venture for it not only furnishes a home for the pastor, but the cultivation of the farm makes a fine project for the Men's Work organization, and brings in a good income besides. A very active Women's Work organization has been carried on here for many years. The membership of the church at present numbers 213 and they have a large open field to work.

#### WAWAKA (1854)

This is the only Church of the Brethren in Noble County. Among the first Brethren preachers were James Tracy, Jacob Berkey, and Jeremiah Gump. Among the first members were Abram Huff, Joseph Weaver, Adam Smith, Christian Weaver, and Bryan Steinberger. Christian Weaver was elected to the ministry on the same day that the church was organized in 1854. He lived until March 15, 1907. For years he and David Baer served the church together as best they could. Often during the service they would take turn about preaching as first one and then the other would think of something to say. Joseph Weaver, George Domer, George Swihart, John Sturgis, Joseph Eby, and Benjamin Fryfogle were ministers prior to 1882.

The Wawaka Church house was built in 1874, one mile southeast of Wawaka. Later a house was built three miles east in the Weaver neighborhood. At one time there were two congregations, the east part retaining the old name of Springfield, the west part being known as Pleasant Mound. For some time it was a custom to have Sunday School at one of the houses, then a half hour after it closed church services were begun in the other house. Most of the attendants drove from the one house to the other during the half hour period. The two churches are now united under the name of Wawaka.

About 1895 Adam Eby, son of Cornelius Eby, a deacon, and a grandson of Adam and Sophia Huff, pioneer settlers, was called to the ministry. He later attended Manchester College several years and married Alice King of North Manchester. They spent 31 years in India as Missionaries. Calvin Huber was elected to the ministry at the same time with Adam Eby. He later moved to West Goshen Church where he died.

In 1903 J. H. Elson moved here from the Cedar Lake congregation. He was a son-in-law of Adam and Sophia Huff. Grandma



Huff died at his home in 1911 at the age of 91. Her husband had died in 1892. Brother Elson was for many years the only minister at Wawaka. He died in 1922 at the age of 92. J. A. Miller was elected to the ministry in 1904. A. I. Mow lived here in 1902 and then moved to Idaho. Walter Gibson and Joseph Miller were later called to the ministry, and John Eberly in 1922. Joseph Miller later went to the Dunkard Brethren and Walter Gibson lives in the Pleasant Valley congregation.

In 1922 Buryl E. Hoover moved in and became pastor of the church, and still serves in that capacity. He was ordained in 1929 and has been elder in charge since then. I. L. Berkey served as elder here for a time, 1910 to 1913. William Hess was elder for a number of years and Milo Geyer was elder from 1919 to 1929.

Early deacons here were Abram Huff, Cornelius Eby, Thomas F. Franks, Harrison Boyd, F. F. Franks, H. L. Shafer, C. A. Huber, G. G. Grady, Edward Frick, and William Weaver. Deacons elected later were Jesse Swank, Lee Franks and Harry Frick. Also Ed. Resler. In 1942 Floyd Jett, Roy Stahly, William Miller, and Russell Shipe were elected deacons. Again on December 10, 1950, Paul Becker, Joseph Bontrager, Donald Castetter, and Robert Fought were installed in the deacon's office.

Sunday School was started about the time that the church was built. Sunday schools were not common then. Later S. S. Superintendents have been Harry Frick, Gordon Warstler, Chester Pepple, Donald Castetter, Floyd Jett, Paul Becker, Laurel Kendall, and Joseph Bontrager.

The church purchased a parsonage in the village of Wawaka in 1930, and it has since been remodeled and made thoroughly modern and convenient. The Women's work is very active here. They purchased a concrete block building next to the parsonage several years ago; it is used for various church functions. The church is in a healthy and growing condition with 130 members. An extensive project of remodeling and enlarging the church building is now in progress. Judged by the interest of the members and the steady growth in size of the congregation, the church has a very promising future.

#### **ELKHART (1830-1915); WEST GOSHEN (1915)**

The West Goshen Church, formerly known as the Elkhart Church, was organized in 1830. It was the first organization in Northern Indiana and with a membership of 562 today, it is the second largest congregation in the district. It retained its original name, Elkhart, until 1915, when because of the confusion it caused, and because of its location, it was given its present name. It formerly embraced all of Elkhart County.



The leader in building these churches was Elder Daniel Cripe, who led a company of brethren from Montgomery county, Ohio, to seek homes in a new land. With him came Martin Weybright and Jacob Studebaker with their families. They arrived in the spring. Rude buildings were erected, some of the prairie broken and the first crops raised.

The next year Elder Cripe made a trip to the Ohio home and returned with a new company, including his son Samuel. In the same year Susannah Cripe was born to John Cripe. She was the first child born in any brethren home in this section. There were now sixteen members scattered here and there. These Elder Cripe assembled and preached to them the first sermon ever delivered by a minister of the Church of the Brethren in Elkhart County. The same year, 1830, a church was organized with Daniel Cripe, elder and minister. A love feast was held at Elder Cripe's house. As no beef could be secured, Elder Cripe furnished one of his ewe lambs for the feast. Love and union prevailed and the work prospered.

In 1832 Elder Cripe called for assistants in the ministry. The membership after careful meditation cast their lots for Jacob Studebaker and Martin Weybright. Each took up his duties and rendered good service. John Miller and John Leatherman came from Ohio in 1835 and Henry Neff came from Virginia about the same time. The ministerial force was then strong. The territory was large and the membership scattered.

The first separate organization was that of Turkey Creek, 1838, including the southern tier of townships in Elkhart County and the territory south in Kosciusko County. In the new organization were John Leatherman, Henry Neff and Martin Weybright. In 1853 the Elkhart Church was reduced to practically its present size. Rock Run was organized on the east, taking in the east part of Elkhart County. Yellow Creek was organized on the west to include the western part of the county. This left for the Elkhart Church a narrow strip four miles wide, running north and south through the county into Michigan. Eighteen churches now are organized in Elkhart County—formerly the Elkhart congregation, comprising a total of 4134 members, or well toward one-half of the membership of the district. Elder Cripe located well when he settled in Elkhart County and the labors of the years have been blessed.

In the bounds of the Elkhart Church Elder Daniel Cripe continued to reside until his death in 1859. Jacob Studebaker lived here until his death in 1878. Daniel B. Stutsman came in 1831. He served the church as deacon, minister and presiding elder, passing to the great beyond in 1887. Andrew Bigler was elder here during the last years of Elder Stutsman. They were followed by Elder Daniel C.



Riggle and George Swihart, assisted by Abraham L. Neff. Elder Swihart resigned in 1899. He was followed by Elder Levi Hoke. John Stafford moved here in the fall of 1905 and soon took up the duties of presiding elder. He died in 1908. He was followed by J. H. Miller. Elder Lemuel Hillery spent his last years in this church. Elder A. L. Neff lived here sixteen years. Elder Calvin Huber followed J. H. Miller as presiding elder. He was followed by M. D. Stutsman who has been presiding elder most of the time since, being the present elder. Hiram Roose was elder from 1925-28 and Foster Berkey from 1936-41.

William Hess, L. P. Kurtz, M. D. Stutsman, Hiram Forney, John Cripe, Clarence Swihart and Isaac Grady all spent many years of active service in the ministry here. Foster Berkey and Samuel Miller were licensed to the ministry in 1928 and both were ordained to the eldership in 1932. James Hay and Arthur Shultz were installed in the ministry here in 1917 but neither remained here long. Devon Martin was the last one licensed to the ministry, which was in 1936, being installed in 1940. Lewis Overholser has served in the ministry here for many years, but gives his service mostly at an out-station eight miles north of the West Goshen house, which became a separate congregation in 1950.

West Goshen had always been served by free ministry. However, Elder D. G. Berkebile moved here from Southern Ohio in Sept. 1949, to become their first full-time pastor. This will be a new epoch for West Goshen.

Some of the earlier deacons were Jacob Ulery, Peter Eby, Isaac Beckner, Isaac Hoke, George Smith, Amos Bigler, Aaron Bigler, Cyrus Frame, Alva Hoke, G. G. Grady, Reuben Trimmer, John Cripe, D. Stouder, I. S. Beckner, Charles Troup, James Hay, Clem Neterer, Arthur Shultz and Aaron Treesh. Among the present deacons are Chester Edwards, Ezra Warstler, Kenneth Michael, Ira Shidler, Harold Berkey, Gerald Sherman, Claire Kauffman, Floyd Kime, and Raymond Younce.

The first house of worship was built in 1859. In 1882 the membership was 275. In 1886 the present large brick house was built, though it has since been remodeled by building a balcony and putting in a full basement. It stands on the site of the original house, one mile from the center of Goshen.

Sunday School was first organized in 1890 and has been continued since. Names of the earlier superintendents are not available. Those since 1917 have been Foster Berkey, Samuel Miller, Ira J. Shidler, Osie Brumbaugh, Roy Meyers, Faye Miller, Paul Kurtz, Glenn Cripe, J. Claire Kauffman and Gerald Sherman.

Anna Warstler went out from this church in 1931 as a mission-



ary to India and still serves in that field, having all these years been supported by her home church. She has rendered splendid service.

On Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27, 1930, the West Goshen Church met in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of our church in Northern Indiana. That morning chanced to bring the first snow of the season and prevented many from attending. Elder Otho Winger, now of sacred memory, was the speaker for the occasion. He gave a very interesting account of the history of the church in America and in Elkhart County. It was a day well spent.

The West Goshen Church has completed a cabin designed to accommodate most of the social functions of the church. This will be of special interest to the young people. The church also recently purchased a very comfortable, modern parsonage a few doors west of the church house. The congregation holds great promise for the future.



**YELLOW CREEK (1856)**

The Yellow Creek Church formerly was the western part of the Elkhart congregation (now West Goshen). It was organized separately in 1856. The first brethren minister here was John Miller, one of the first ministers in Elkhart County. He settled here in an early day and raised a large family. Sebastian Frame was one of the first elders and presided many years. He was followed by his son, Gabriel, and by John Eversole, also a preacher and elder. The Frames lived in the northern part of the congregation where later on was organized the Elkhart Valley Church. Other of the earlier ministers were Jacob Eversole and John Anglemyer; J. H. Miller lived at Gravelton but served as elder. The first deacons in Yellow Creek were Paul Kurtz, Henry Sala, Daniel Leer and David Miller.

In 1881 when the division came this church passed through sore



trials. The elder, Samuel Leer, Benjamin Burket, minister in the second degree and eleven others went with the Old Order Brethren. This left only one official, John Nusbaum, a deacon. The adjoining elders looked after the appointments for awhile. Help was not long wanting. John Nusbaum was called to the ministry in 1883. Hiram Roose, in 1884, and Eli Roose in 1887. Later deacons were Jacob Domer, Abe Hoover, John Ganger and Isaiah Miller.

The house of worship was built in 1867. It is about seven miles west of Goshen and is still in use. Before this they had worshiped in the homes. Henry Culp was in charge of the building of the church. Levi Miller hauled the first load of lumber. In 1921 the house was remodeled, being turned one-fourth way around and having a full basement added. Five class rooms were made at this time.

Later ministers elected have been I. S. Burns and John Frederick, in 1904; Harvey Schwalm, 1910. The latter was a son of Elder H. M. Schwalm. He died of typhoid fever in 1922. Others elected later were, Irvin Miller, Earl Nusbaum and Charles Herr. H. A. Claybaugh lived here for some years.

In the later years the church has been served by part-time pastoral service. Samuel Miller of Goshen served for several years, and Charles Light since early in 1946. The presiding elders in turn have been: John Miller, Sebastian Frame, Daniel Y. Miller, Jacob Eversole, Samuel Leer, John Anglemyer, J. H. Miller, Hiram Roose, Harvey Schwalm. Harold Miller began full time pastoral services September, 1950.

Among the deacons who have served here in the later years have been Levi Mishler, Josiah Miller, and Daniel Miller. The present deacons are: William Wagner, Joe Hygema, Sam Wallace, Henry Hoover, Amos Hoover, Frank Huber, Walter Steffin and Chester Detweiler.

The Sunday School was organized in 1882 with Samuel Steiner as superintendent. The school grew quite large and prospered. Other superintendents have been Henry Hoke, Hiram Roose, I. S. Burns, Eli Garber, Amanda Miller, John Frederick, Harvey Schwalm and Earl Nusbaum.

The church continues in a prosperous condition with 178 members at the present time. The congregation has purchased a parsonage farm which will doubtless furnish a good project for the men of the church as well as bringing in a good income, and furnish a home for future pastors.

### **CHURCHES DISORGANIZED**

When the Brethren settled in various parts of Northern Indiana, they literally "went everywhere preaching the Word." Later on, as



the country became more thickly populated, the tendency was for them to settle more in groups, and thus churches were established. Our strongest churches were started in this way. However some of the groups worked on for years without making much progress, due perhaps to various causes; so that locations that seemed promising at first, gradually weakened and finally were disorganized. Two such places of which we have no detailed record were WINAMAC and CHRISTIAN. We have no record of the date of their organization, the work done, nor the exact date of their disorganization, though we know it was between 1873 and 1886.

The FLAT ROCK CHURCH was located south of Fort Wayne, near Monroeville, and was disorganized in 1901. We do not know the date of its organization nor the work done there, though we do know that the District Mission Board directed their work for some years.

PIGEON RIVER was an organization located in the northeastern part of Indiana, around Angola, and carried on for a number of years. We do not know the date of its organization, but it was disorganized in 1910.

POKAGON was an organization in Cass County, Michigan, and under the control of the Mission Board for a number of years. It was organized somewhere around 1870, and was formerly part of the Portage congregation. It never prospered very much and was disorganized in 1912.

LITTLE ST. JOE congregation originally was part of the South Bend church, and lay to the northeast, east and southeast of that city. Later the St. Joe Valley church was organized and took off the northern part of this territory. When the Baugo congregation was organized in the western part of Elkhart County, it greatly weakened this church, so that in time it existed only in name. Their membership was scattered and they had no regular minister, and finally, no services. In 1912 they asked District Meeting for disorganization, which was granted, the members going to surrounding churches.

The SOLOMON'S CREEK church was organized in 1918. The territory lay to the north and west of Syracuse, and had been a part of the Bethany congregation. Part of the membership may have been from New Paris, or even Syracuse. It was in existence only ten years. They never had a resident minister and but few deacons. After making a noble effort they were disorganized in 1928, some placing their membership at Rock Run, and some with Bethany and New Paris.

#### **SHIPSHEWANA (1857-1938)**

Shipshewana, formerly part of the Rock Run congregation, was organized in 1857. At that time it included all of Lagrange County,



comprising the territory from which later were organized the English Prairie, Topeka and Van Buren churches. The latter two have since been disorganized.

The first ministers were David Truby, Henry Gephart and Abram Bare. The first deacons were Samuel Doney and Samuel Lupold. Since then the church called to the ministry, David and Samuel Lupold, 1857; Benjamin Leer, 1870; D. D. Bolinger and Charles Stutsman, 1886; Forest Nickler, 1915. Elias Schrock, Benjamin Bolinger and J. H. Schrock moved in.

Presiding elders of this congregation have been, Jacob Berkey, David Truby, Samuel Lupold, Benjamin Leer, J. H. Fike and J. H. Schrock. Benjamin Leer was presiding elder here for thirty years. Some of the deacons were, John Bolinger, Amos Atland, Joseph Roberts, S. R. Yoder, L. D. Fry, Dallas Zigler, William Nickler and Harry Simpson.

For some years the church was in a flourishing condition, but for various reasons, death, migration, etc., the membership grew smaller and the congregation was finally disorganized in 1938.

#### **ST. JOSEPH VALLEY (1881-1921)**

The St. Joseph Valley congregation was a part of the St. Joseph congregation until January 29, 1881, when the new church was organized. John Wrightsman was chosen pastor. Peter Cripe, Thomas Longley, Joseph Ulery Sr. and Joseph Ulery Jr. were deacons. Sunday School was organized in 1882. Isaac Miller was the second pastor. In 1882 Frank Hendricks was called to the ministry; David Miller, in 1884; Jerry Bottorff in 1895. Later deacons were: Frank Bottorff, Clinton Peterson, Jacob Esseg, Henry Wenger, Canon Smith, Henry Berkey, Jerry Bottorff, Claude Ullery, Grant Miller and M. A. Harbaugh.

David S. Cripe was pastor and elder here for many years. Their house of worship, two miles north of South Bend, was the first meeting house in the St. Joseph church before the territory was divided. The church was finally disorganized in 1921 and the members transferred to the two churches in South Bend.

#### **TOPEKA (1867-1931)**

Elder Jacob Berkey did the first preaching near Topeka, formerly called the Hawpatch. The church was organized in 1867. The following are charter members: Vick Gary and wife, Peter Yoder and wife, Elias Schrock and wife; Abram Gerber, wife and son. Elias Schrock was the first minister.

In 1869 the members and their friends built the first and only house of worship in what is now the town of Topeka. In 1882



the first Sunday School was organized. It was a union Sunday School with friend David Hartzler as superintendent.

In 1895 the church called to the ministry Michael Bowman. He lived here for many years until his death in 1926. In 1891 William Greenawalt was called to the ministry. He later moved to Goshen.

In 1913 the house of worship was remodeled. That same year the congregation took the name Topeka. Eld. I. S. Burns lived here for a time and was elder of the congregation. Andrew Yountz, formerly a Mennonite minister, assisted in the ministry for a while. Finally the membership grew less and the interest waned until the congregation was disorganized in 1931.

#### **PLEASANT VIEW CHAPEL (1915-1930)**

This congregation was originally part of the Bethel Church and was organized in 1915 with thirty-five members. Their territory was small as the church house was located within three or four miles of other churches on all sides, and there was no room for expansion. There was no resident minister. John Neff, John Weybright, James Maloy and Clinton Calendar were deacons residing here. Interest gradually waned and they were disorganized in 1930 with the members placing their membership in the surrounding congregations. The building was donated to Camp Mack which was located only a mile away, and thus it is still in use.

#### **PORTAGE (1831-1921)**

This was the second organization of the Brethren in Northern Indiana, being established about 1831. The first minister was Elder David Miller, who had also been the pioneer preacher in the Nettle Creek congregation in Wayne County, Indiana. In 1834 the church called Jacob Miller to the ministry, who became a man of great influence and ability, not only at home but elsewhere as well. Under his services the church grew strong in numbers.

In 1851 a house of worship was built eight miles northwest of South Bend, being the first one that the brethren built in Northern Indiana. It stood in a beautiful oak grove near the Michigan line. It was in use for many years.

Associated with Jacob Miller in the ministry was his brother James. Later the church called Thurston Miller to the ministry; also John Heaston, F. F. Fields and Isaac Miller. Since Portage included part of South Bend, at different times there lived in the congregation Peter Wrightsman, D. B. Sturgis, John Wrightsman and John Sturgis.

Some of the deacons who lived here were: Peter Wycoff, Michael Augustine, George Witter, George Scott, John Stroup, James Houston, Christian Hollar, Samuel Keltner, Jacob Whitmer, William



Strauss, William Brown, John Wedell, Daniel Wagner and Thomas Longley.

At one time Portage was one of the largest churches in Northern Indiana. Its territory was the northwestern part of St. Joseph County, Laporte County, and Berrien and Cass Counties in Michigan. The Berrien church was organized in 1867, taking Berrien County, Mich. The Laporte church was organized in 1870, taking Laporte County. The Pokagon Church was organized about the same time in Cass County, Mich. These weakened the mother church greatly in numbers. The division in 1882 took many more into the Progressive Church. Bro. Amsey Puterbaugh labored here for some time trying to build up the work. Finally in 1921 the property was sold and the funds held in endowment, the interest being divided equally each year to the four churches that once were part of this territory, Buchanan, Laporte, Michigan City and Second South Bend.

#### **COLUMBIA CITY (1875-1927)**

In the early sixties a few brethren families, mostly from Ohio, located near Columbia City, associating themselves with the Blue River congregation. Among these was a deacon by the name of Daniel Brown. To his untiring efforts much of the success of the church of the past is due. In all there were about twenty members.

Being some ten or twelve miles from their church home, they naturally desired a more accessible place of worship. This desire was granted and the Columbia City Church was organized in 1875. Soon a good church house was erected one mile west of the city. At first the congregation had no resident minister. Elder Jeremiah Gump was elder in charge. After some years David Workman was elected to the ministry and a few years later, Henry Lilly. Bro. Lilly soon moved away.

The church continued for some years with varied success. At no time did the membership exceed forty. Bro. Workman was often ill and disappointed the people at their services, being unable to attend. In 1901 Bro. Leonard Hire from the Blue River congregation located here and helped for a time.

Finally, since it was evident that the church was losing out, they sold their house to another congregation. They tried to have services for awhile in a rented room. At last the District Mission Board took charge and closed the place. The congregation was disorganized in 1927 and the few members were granted letters to nearby churches.

#### **SOUTH BEND (1868); NORTH LIBERTY (1917); OAK GROVE (1942)**

This congregation originally comprised all of the southwest part of St. Joseph County, including the city of South Bend from Michigan



Street west and Washington Street south, along what was then known as Michigan Road, now as U. S. 31, to the county line and west to the Kankakee River. Before 1868 it even included the western part of Elkhart County, but in that year the eastern part was separated and was known as the St. Joseph Church.

Abraham Whitmer was the pioneer promoter and elder of this congregation until his death, when his son, Daniel, became the elder and ruled for many years. Later, Daniel Hartman was elder for many years. He was followed by Daniel Whitmer's son, M. I. Whitmer. A history of the Whitmers was almost a history of the church, for father, son and grandson presided nearly all of her history. In fact for many years it was familiarly known as the Whitmer Church. Claude Ullery and Charles Yoder had charge the last few years. In 1882 there were 175 members, though the number greatly decreased as the years went on, by those moving away, and also in 1917 when the North Liberty congregation was organized and the original territory took the name of Oak Grove.

Abraham Whitmer and his helpers established a number of preaching points in the territory; the main one on his own farm in Green Township, where the Oak Grove Church stood for many years; another on the Michigan Road five miles south of South Bend, known as Palmer's Prairie Church; another at the Waldsmith school house, four miles southeast of the Whitmer Church; and another at the Taylor school house two miles west of North Liberty.

Jonathan Cripe, a minister in the second degree moved in 1904. He was ordained in 1905. His son, Charles C., was elected to the ministry the same day. In 1906 Harvey S. Bowers was elected to the ministry. Other ministers who served in the congregation at various times were William Borough, Elmer Heim, John Brumbaugh and Claude Ullery.

Some of the deacons who served here during the years were: Daniel Plabse, David Whitmer, W. H. Finkenbinder, Henry Cripe, Frank Kale, Samuel Bates, Henry Miller, Enos Bowers, Harvey Yoder, Elmer Yoder, Jacob Warner, Christian Hawblitzel, William Arnold, Samuel Good, Jerry Peters, Larmon Foote, Russel Clark, Russel Narragon, Harry Miller, Charles Stroup and Charles Narragon.

After a number of years a group of retired farmers and others moved to North Liberty; they purchased a vacant Episcopal Church, remodeled it and in 1917 were organized as the North Liberty congregation. From this time on the work at Oak Grove gradually declined. Quite a few moved away and others of other faiths moved in. Brethren Claude Ullery and Charles Yoder, who lived in South Bend, struggled hard to keep the work going, but the church was disorganized in 1942.



### CHAPTER III

## CONGREGATIONS—SOUTHERN INDIANA

### ANDERSON

From Four Mile, the Mother Church in Indiana, has come two of the largest churches in our Southern District. Anderson, one of these, has the largest membership for a single church in the district.

In 1893 the General Mission Board through the Annual Conference, held at Muncie, sent Ella Raffensberger (Mrs. Jesse Webster) to organize a Sunday School and arrange for preaching service.

Brother J. S. Alldredge was made Superintendent of the Sunday School, with Joseph Saunders assistant; William Hoover, Secretary-Treasurer; Lizzie Simons, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; S. A. Emswiler, Chorister, with John Childs, William Simons and J. S. Alldredge as Trustees.

The first preaching service was called by Ella Raffensberger for 9:30 A. M. June 25, 1893. To be held in a room above the Sells Undertaking Home at 9th and Jackson Sts., the service to be conducted in English. Sixteen people gathered for that service, being J. S. Alldredge and wife Leathy, who still worship here, Ella Raffensberger, Elders Fred Fessler and Joseph Holder, who did the preaching, Wm. Hoover and wife Susan, John L. Childs and wife Margaret (Sister Childs still worships here), William Simons and wife Mary, their son, Joseph and daughter, Lizzie, Samuel Emswiler and wife Jennie, and Joseph Saunders. Other ministers who served in these early days were Henry Longanecker and George Stump.

In 1894 Brethren Fred Fessler, J. S. Alldredge and Roadcap solicited one day for money to purchase a building lot. This was during a depression when all the factories but the Philadelphia Quartz Works were closed, and only one of the Brethren was employed. The Dunkers were held in high esteem, and \$120.00 was received with which they bought two lots, 21-29 McKinley St. It was then that three brethren, Fessler, Shock and Larcher, donated standing trees in the forest and members of the church cut and sawed them into lumber for a 30 x 45 building. Brother Larcher and partner hauled the logs to the mill and Noah Ham drayed the lumber to the lots. Elder J. R. Wellington, who was an experienced carpenter, superintended the work which was donated by unemployed people. The building committee was John Childs, Treas., William Simons, Pres., and J. S. Alldredge, Secy. In Oct., 1894, the new church was dedicated with Elder David



Richards preaching the sermon. There was a debt of \$700, which was soon paid by money gifts at quarterly council meetings.

Soon the church grew larger in numbers as Brethren families moved in from other congregations and through revivals, Bible institutes, music schools, and cottage revivals. At one of these cottage meetings there were twenty-two conversions. The first revival was held by Elder Walter Gustin. Followed by Henry Fadely, David Richards, B. M. Rollins, Jacob Heisted, Henry Longanecker, Isaac Wike, John McCarty, Wm. Boggs and Elden M. Petry.

In 1911 the church building was enlarged and dedicated with Elder Lewis Teeter preaching the dedicatory sermon. Again in 1915 the church was remodeled and rededicated with Elder David Hoover preaching the sermon.

A beautiful new brick building was erected in 1930 and the dedicatory sermon given by Brother J. O. Winger.

Until 1940 the church was served by the free ministry, the men being; Elders J. S. Alldredge, 1916-24; Henry Longanecker, 1924-; D. W. Bowman, 1925-1937; R. L. Showalter, 1937-40. Brother A. P. Musselman the first full time pastor served from 1940 until 1947. Brother Elden M. Petry came in 1947 and is the present pastor.

In 1932 and in 1939 the Annual Conference was held in the city of Anderson on the Church of God college grounds.

The church has a fully organized active Women's Work and Men's Work.

In fifty years the church has grown from five families to a membership of three hundred and thirty seven.

The following lists are: Ministers ordained, Elders who have served and Deacons installed in the Anderson Church.

Ministers ordained in Anderson: Frank E. Hay, 1914; Alfred B. Roof, 1916; Henry Sink, 1916; D. W. Bowman, 1929; Russel L. Showalter, 1935; Clarence H. Hoover, 1933.

Ministers who have lived in Anderson are; Henry Sink, A. B. Roof, D. W. Bowman, Marion Norris, R. L. Showalter, C. H. Hoover, F. E. Hay, Paul Hiatt, A. P. Musselman, Howard Martin, Carnie Carpenter, Elden M. Petry, J. S. Alldredge.

Elders who have served the Anderson Church are: Fred Fesler-1893, John R. Wellington-1910, Moses Smeltzer-1915, David F.

**Anderson**

**Arcadia**

**Buck Creek**

**Four Mile**

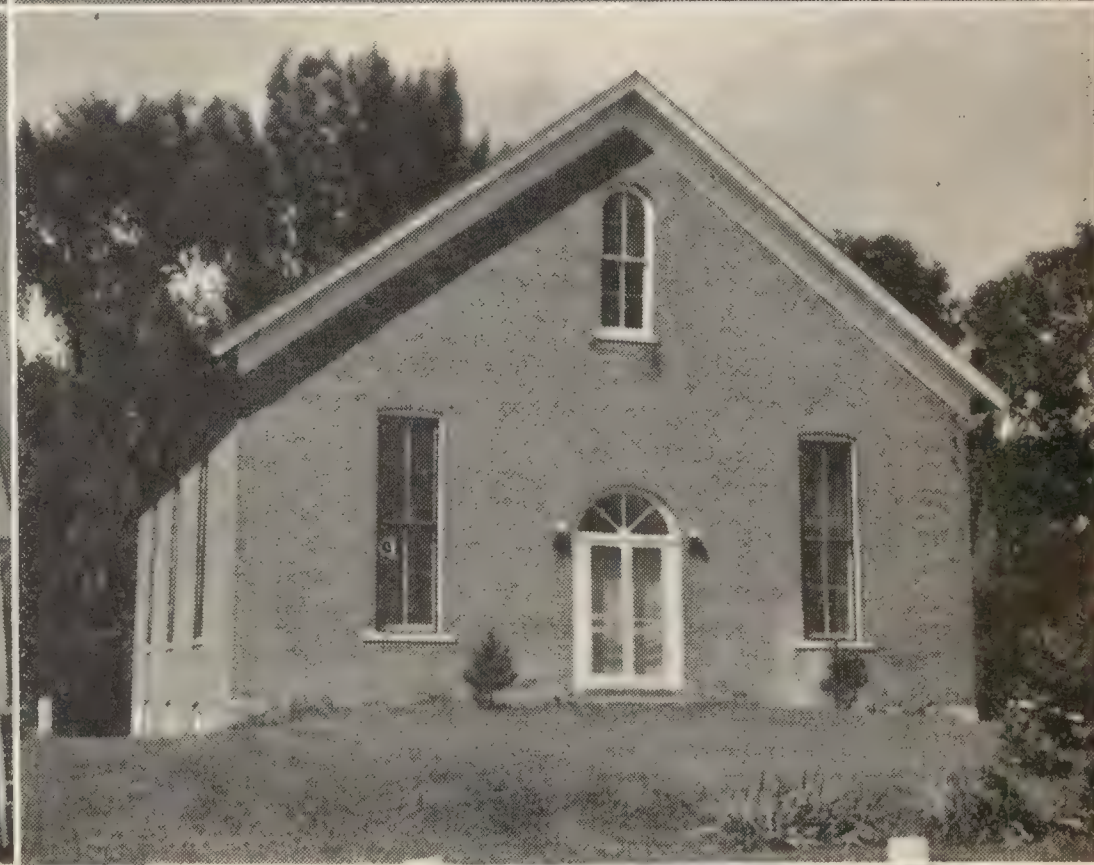
**Antioch**

**Beech Grove**

**Fairview**

**Howard**







Hoover-1918, D. W. Bowman-1925, R. L. Showalter-1937, A. P. Musselman-1940, Elden M. Petry-1947.

Deacons installed in the Anderson Church: Charles Johnson-baugh-1924, Levi Wise-1925, Will Smith-1930, Frank Krall-1930, William Marshall-1939, Earnest Heagy-1939, Kenneth Norris-1945, John W. Showalter-1945.

### ANTIOCH

The Killbuck Church was organized in 1860 with ten members. In twenty-two years by 1882 the church numbered forty members with Brother Hiram Branson as Elder and Brethren John Mahoney, J. R. Wellington, R. W. Branson and Isaac Branson as Ministers.

At one time the organization included Summitville. During the seventies a house was built west of Muncie known as Pleasant Run. These church houses have been abandoned and in 1890 the present church five miles northwest of Muncie was built. Brother Ira Hiatt was ordained in this church and Brother J. W. Priddy was relieved from the ministry by his own request.

December 17, 1946, the name of the church was changed from Killbuck Congregation, Antioch House, to Antioch. Paul Vise was licensed to the ministry in 1946 and refused a license in 1947. Eugene Wolverton was licensed in 1946.

The Bransons lived and worked many years in this church. J. R. Wellington, a man with force of character; an Elder in the church for some years, was born at Pitsburg, Ohio, and came to Indiana when quite young. His father was a Justice of the Peace, his wife was Matilda Holt. He died in 1906 when he was sixty-six years old. Brother James Hunter was pastor of the Antioch church from 1941-1949. Lloyd Hilbert served 1949-1950, Floyd Bowman is the present pastor. The membership is one hundred and twenty.

Pastors who have served the church since 1913 are: Ira Hiatt, Vern Browning, James Hunter, and Lloyd Hilbert. Elders who have presided are: J. A. Miller, Vern Browning, E. O. Norris, Russel Showalter, Carl Rarick, Eldon Burke, Estel McCullough and an Elders Committee. The Deacons are B. P. Ritchie, Orville Turner and R. Moore.

### ARCADIA

The first Church of the Brethren to be organized in Southern District of Ind. was near College Corner, Union Co., which is now known as the Four Mile Church. From there the members migrated to Hamilton Co. Elder Joseph McCarty seems to have been the first preacher of the Church of the Brethren or Dunkards as they were then known.



Joseph McCarty was born Aug. 1817 in Ohio and married Mary Surface of Ohio. They established their home there for a few years. In 1850 he with his family came to Ind. Where he went there were no roads or paths of any kind and he blazed a trail through the forest to the northern part of Hamilton Co. He established his home six miles west and nearly a mile north of the present location of Arcadia. His farm was west of 31 near Midway Filling Station. On the bank of the stream he erected a water power grist mill. At this place he reared his family of 12 children and 3 orphans. Several descendants are still living in the county.

Being a true pioneer preacher, Elder McCarty spent much time traveling the territory within his reach, holding services in the homes and communions in the barns. Later he moved a few miles northwest of Arcadia where Frank Landis now resides. Elder McCarty was a carpenter as well as a preacher. At the time of the 75th anniversary of the church in 1931, Mrs. Bertha Herschman, a grand-daughter, showed a lunch box that her grandfather carried when he worked away from home.

The next preacher to come here was Elias Caylor. His father came to this country from Germany. Elias Caylor was born in 1805. He was the 16th child in the family, and said to be the first white child born west of the Miami River. Elias grew up and married and later moved to Henry Co., to what was then known and still remains the Nettle Creek Church. In 1849 or 50 about the time Elder McCarty came to Hamilton Co., the Caylors came also and located east of Noblesville where a scattered settlement had been established. Here Elder Caylor aided in organizing the Stony Creek Church, the mother church of the Arcadia Congregation.

Six years later he came to the vicinity of Arcadia and immediately became interested in those living around here and organizing them into a church body, and became their Elder.

As had been his practice before, he preached often in surrounding territory including Montgomery Co. Here under the preaching of McCarty and Caylor the noted late R. H. Miller was converted and baptized by Caylor.

The Arcadia Church of the Brethren was the second church of any denomination to be established in this vicinity. The Lutheran Church having been organized about four years previously.

The first several years of the church existence there was no regular place of worship. The members met in homes and school houses for services. The last communion service to be held in a barn was held in that of Andrew Eller.

In 1865 the church purchased from Elder Caylor the ground to erect a church building and laid out a cemetery. According to the deed



the consideration was \$60.00 for 1 acre. The first and only church building to be erected by the Arcadia church was built the following year, 1866. The timber for this building came from the farm of Mollie Miller, the mother of George Bowser and Henry Miller.

Elder Caylor was a farmer, preacher, and also had a harness shop at one time in Arcadia. Later he moved to Noblesville. Elder Caylor died 1889 at the age of 84 years and was buried in the cemetery near the church.

Elder McCarty received the charge of the church next and continued until his death. Both he and his wife lie buried near the church.

At the death of McCarty, Elder Kellar of Bunker Hill was given the charge about one year. William Pierce of second degree was ordained as elder during this time and became elder in charge in 1878 and continued until his death four years later. Elder Pierce was a shoemaker by trade, having a shop in Arcadia, later in Millersburg, which was then a rival of Arcadia. Then later in Atlanta. A little incident which occurred while he had his shop in Arcadia is worthy of notice. He had on his shelf, a pair of new boots that had been made to order and never called for. One day a young man came into the shop who could wear the boots. Pierce told him if he would purchase the boots he would perform his wedding ceremony free. The sale was made shortly after and Elder Pierce, true to his promise, united in marriage Joseph Kinder and Elizabeth Smeltzer. Elder Pierce and his wife died the year 1882 and lie buried near the church.

At this time Elder John Caylor of Noblesville, a nephew of Elias Caylor, was given charge of the church. He was elected deacon before the Stony Creek and Arcadia Churches were separate congregations. That particular council meeting was held in a barn on the farm owned by David Bright, between Arcadia and Cicero, now owned by Lee Tidler. Elder John Caylor died near Noblesville in 1899.

George W. Bowser served as the next elder. Elder Bowser was a farmer and owned the farm where Roscoe Shaffer now lives. Nine years before his death he resigned the eldership of the church and was succeeded by Elias Smeltzer. Elder Smeltzer was born on the farm owned by Roy Ehman, west of Atlanta. He lived near Arcadia all his life. During that time he visited the Holy Land, comparing the land and the Bible.

Elders following in order were Nathan Cripe, 1911; Elias Smeltzer again in 1912, followed by Fred Fair, Grant Wagoner and Wm. Hatcher. A number of preachers were called to the ministry during these years: Daniel Achenbach, John Caylor, Newton Perry, James H. Hill, Walter Mosbaugh.

In the year 1923 the church called I. B. Wike of Huntington to serve as pastor and elder. I. B. Wike was the first paid pastor to serve



the church. He served faithfully until 1931, adding many to the church.

Among the men who served as deacons when the church was first organized were George Heimlich, George Cornelius, David Bright, and Andrew Eller. Others called later were Peter Eller and James Hill, Elias Smeltzer, J. P. Kinder. In 1908 the church called John Eller, Henry Martin and W. V. Barnhizer. In 1912, Clarence Mosbaugh and Will Eller. In 1925, Frank Landes, C. H. Smeltzer, Ivan Smeltzer, and Dallas Barnhizer. Daniel Smeltzer was elected deacon in the Stony Creek Church and later moved to Arcadia. In 1937 the church called Clifton Hartley, Gerald Landes, Elsworth Lockwood and James Smeltzer. When elected to the office of deacon in the Brethren church it means a lifetime of service.

The first Sunday School in the Arcadia Church was organized in 1899 with Elias Smeltzer as Supt., Peter Eller, Asst. Supt., Nora Cornelius Groves as Secretary and Sarah Kinder, Treas. The first teachers were Elias Smeltzer, J. H. Hill, Sarah Kinder, Elizabeth Kinder and Zeruiah Hill. At first the school was open only during the summer. It became an evergreen S. S. in 1899. Zuruiah Hill succeeded Elias Smeltzer as Supt. and remained in that office for 18 years. Later Supts. were Joe Stout, Clifton Hartley, Dallas Barnhizer and Adrian Sexton, who is serving at the present time.

At first the care and management of the cemetery was in the hands of the deacons. In 1893 a trustee board was elected and consisted of G. W. Bowser, J. W. Keck, Squire Newby, Peter Eller and Elias Smeltzer. Squire Newby as manager took charge of the grounds for several years.

The first Supt. of the cemetery elected by the trustees was Ellis Young. Later followed by Enock Landis, J. P. Kinder, T. A. Davis and Lora Belzar. George Simmons is now caring for the cemetery. J. P. Kinder served as Supt. for 21 years and cared for about 1,000 burials.

Among some of the early members of the church not previously mentioned was Daniel Whetstone from Ripley Co. The Eilars from Wayne County, David Brights from Ohio and Samuel Miller, grandfather of John and Joe Miller who are now members of the church.

In 1931 R. L. Showalter became elder and pastor of the church. He served the church as pastor for 12 years and is still the presiding elder, having served more than 18 years. During Showalters pastorate he had a six months leave. Glen Baird then a student at Bethany Bible Seminary at Chicago, served our church.

Stanley Keller, also a student pastor from Bethany Seminary, served as pastor until 1944. He was followed by Alfred Replogle (1944-46), W. E. Hamilton (1946-48) and Arthur Dodge, since 1948.



The original church which was erected in 1866 has never been dismantled. In 1907 it was remodeled. Rev. Burcham of Noblesville giving the dedicatory sermon. Again in 1919 the church was remodeled. A large basement was added. A furnace and new seats, were purchased. Otho Winger of North Manchester delivered the address. Many minor improvements have been added since.

In the spring of 1945 the church purchased their first parsonage and it was occupied by Rev. Replogle and family. In 1948 the church sold that parsonage to Rev. Hamilton and purchased a property on East Main Street.

Down through the years our ministers and elders have worked faithfully. Sharing the joys and sorrows with their members. The church has grown under the untiring efforts of these people. The present membership is 136.

### **BEECH GROVE** **(Formerly the Stony Creek Church)**

The old Stony Creek Church was organized about 1850 by Brother Elias Caylor. He and Brother Joseph McCarty saw the church grow rapidly having almost unlimited boundaries with the larger membership being in Hamilton County. In eleven years the first house was built about three miles east of Noblesville and long known as the "Old Stony Creek House."

In 1860 a church was formed in the north part of Hamilton County which took about forty members and was called Cicero Church. In 1878 the territory in the eastern part of Hamilton County and the western part of Madison County was organized as the Beech Grove Church with fifty members. There was also an organization in Noblesville. Some internal troubles arose and Elder Elias Caylor moved to Arcadia and the Cicero church became the Arcadia church. John H. Caylor and Joseph McCarty continued to labor faithfully until death. Brother Enoch Fry was the only minister in the Beech Grove church when it was organized.

Through the preaching of Elder John H. Caylor, David R. Richards was baptized in 1872. In 1881 he was elected to the ministry and ordained in 1895. The same day he became Elder of the Beech Grove church. He remained its faithful shepherd for seventeen years. He was a zealous supporter of the Sunday School and Prayer meetings. He spent much time on the mission field of Southern Indiana.

In 1902, Edward O. Norris, a son-in-law of D. R. Richards, was called to the ministry. He was ordained Nov. 4, 1906. Since then Brother Norris has been a most faithful and devoted leader. At the present he is pastor of the Richmond Church. Brethren Paul Hiatt and Claudius Pyle were also ordained.



The southern part of this church was organized into a separate body known as Sugar Creek. The work did not prosper and the members became a part of the Beech Grove Church. At this time the Noblesville church has been closed and Beech Grove with Arcadia are the remaining churches of the original "Old Stony Creek."

The Presiding Elders have been; Enoch Fry, D. R. Richards, E. O. Norris, Joseph Shepherd, A. B. Roof, Clarence Hoover and E. L. McCullough. Those who have served in the free ministry are Harvey Haskell, Carlos Savage, Jake Swoveland, Walt Gustin, E. O. Norris, Joseph Shepherd, Marion Norris, and Jonathan Greenhalgh.

The part time pastors are; Brethren Clarence Hoover, Joseph Shepherd, Paul Hiatt, and Estel McCullough.

The Deacons who have served and those now serving are; Jim Byers, Jonah Michael, Billy Stinson, Nathan Stinson, David Pettigrew, Alva Pettigrew, Joseph Fuqua, Isom Denny, David Thomas, Jim Roe Cook, George Shull, James Landig, Charley Schuler, Alfred Spall, Jonas Michael, William Beaver, George Fair, Leonard Reeves, Owen Chappell, Albert Whelchel, Even Fuqua, Joseph Killey, Frank Mills, George Beery, Lester Fuqua, Stewart Hiday, Francis Young, Elire Mills.

The Superintendents of the Sunday School: Linnie Landig, Alva Pettigrew, Emma Foust, Hattie Shull, Vernie Beaver, Amos Spall, Even Fuqua, Max Jones, Ralph Hunt, Stewart Hiday and Frances Young.

Brother Estel McCullough is the present pastor serving since June 1942. The membership is one hundred thirty-two. The present church house has been remodeled and is very commodious. The District meeting of 1949 was held here. A large tent was put up under the shade of the one remaining beech tree. This beautiful tree still shades the sacred ground of the Beech Grove Church.

### **BUCK CREEK**

The Buck Creek Church was originally a branch of the Nettle Creek Church. It was organized as a separate congregation in 1845 and located in the northern part of the Nettle Creek territory.

Prior to its organization Elder John Bowman of Hagerstown preached for them, and when organized. The elders in charge were Benjamin Bowman, David Hardman, Zachariah Albaugh, and John Bowman. The charter members were Samuel Bechtelheimer and wife, Samuel Brewer and wife, and David Priddy and wife. Samuel Brewer was the first minister elected, and Samuel Bechtelheimer and his son, Simeon, were the first deacons.

The early meetings were held in homes and barns. The first communion was held in the home of Jacob Houser, September 17, 1846.



Some of the communion meetings were held in the David Priddy barn where Jacob Houser was elected to the ministry.

Jacob Houser was elected minister June 18, 1852; David Priddy, 1860; Levi Himes and Jacob Priddy, 1864; John Kirklin, 1866, and John Bowman, 1869.

The church house was built about 1867. It was located two miles west of Blountsville and five miles northwest of Mooreland. It was originally a two-gable building built on a low rock foundation, and with the entrance door on the south side. The entrance door was later put in the west end. In 1898 the building was remodeled, raised, and a basement put under it. It was dedicated in November of that year, Lewis W. Teeter giving the dedicatory sermon. The communion meeting for that fall was held in December. It was again remodeled in 1922 and an annex built on the south side. It was rededicated on November 5 of that year and Evangelist S. J. Smith, who was beginning a revival meeting there, preached the dedicatory sermon. There was an all-day meeting, and it was the greatest day in the history of the Buck Creek Church. At the time of this writing a further remodeling of the church house is being planned.

David H. Replogle was elected to the ministry in 1871. Levi T. Holsinger came back from Nebraska in 1881. Those two ministers were both ordained to the eldership on the same day in 1888, and Levi T. Holsinger was elected presiding elder. Soon after their ordination Levi T. Holsinger moved to Ladoga, Indiana, and David H. Replogle was elected presiding elder to succeed him. He served as presiding elder for twenty years, then resigned in 1908.

Isaac B. Wike was elected to the ministry in 1889 and ordained to the eldership in 1900. Lewis W. Teeter was in charge of the ordination. He moved to Huntington County, Indiana in the spring of 1902.

Lewis L. Teeter was elected to the ministry in the Upper Fall Creek Church on June 22, 1895. His letter of membership was granted on the same day to be presented to the Buck Creek Church where he was then residing. He was advanced to the second degree of the ministry on October 8, 1897. He was ordained to the eldership November 2, 1902, and was elected presiding elder of the Buck Creek Church on December 26, 1908 to succeed David H. Replogle. He served as presiding elder until his death on March 6, 1934, a period of more than twenty-five years.

Anson C. Priddy was elected to the ministry in 1901, and ordained to the eldership about ten years later.

Sherman Cross was elected to the ministry on March 7, 1914, after having been a minister in the United Brethren Church, and later moved to Muncie. A. J. Replogle and E. C. Teeter were elected deacons on the same day.



Lewis L. Paul and E. C. Teeter were elected to the ministry in two council meetings in the fall of 1918, and were installed together on November 17, 1918. About five years later Lewis L. Paul was ordained to the eldership. He moved to Camden, Indiana twice thereafter where he was pastor of the Lower Deer Creek Church. He returned in March 1934 and was elected presiding elder of the Buck Creek Church on April 4, 1934 to succeed Lewis L. Teeter, and he served as presiding elder until his death on Jan. 8, 1940.

Lewis Deardorff was licensed to preach in 1932, and was elected to the ministry the following year. He graduated from Manchester College in 1936. The next year he moved to Ladoga, Indiana, where he was part time pastor of the Ladoga Church and a teacher in the high school for six years. He was ordained to the eldership while at Ladoga.

D. W. Bowman of the Anderson Church was elected presiding elder of the Buck Creek Church in March 1940 to succeed Lewis L. Paul and served as presiding elder eight years to March 14, 1948, when he resigned.

E. C. Teeter was ordained to the eldership on September 8, 1934, and elected presiding elder of the Buck Creek Church on March 14, 1948, to succeed D. W. Bowman, and is the present presiding elder.

The presiding elders of the Buck Creek Church from its organization were Christian Holler, Daniel Bowman, Levi Himes, Levi T. Hollinger, David H. Replogle, Lewis L. Teeter, Lewis L. Paul, D. W. Bowman, and E. C. Teeter.

Other ministers in the Buck Creek Church were Jacob Holder in 1881, Jacob Swoveland from 1908 until his death in 1910, S. G. Burnett in 1922, B. F. Summer 1927-1928 and Perry R. Hoover 1934-1940.

The first Sunday School was organized in 1872, and Levi Himes was the first superintendent. Later Sunday school superintendents were Isaac B. Wike, Lewis L. Teeter, Charles E. Stauble, Phoebe (Teeter) Good, Nettie (Brown) Summer, E. N. Cross, A. J. Replogle, Perry R. Hoover, Neva Cross, Clara Sheets. Ernest Rodeffer is the present superintendent.

At one time in the early history of the church about one third of the congregation migrated to Kansas. Included in those were some of the leading families, deacons, and two ministers, one of whom was the presiding elder. They founded the Osage Church in Southeastern Kansas.

The district conferences that have been held in the Buck Creek church were in 1899, 1910, 1918, 1926, 1935 and 1943.

Nettie (Brown) Summer from the Buck Creek Church was a missionary to India 1919-1927.

The Sunday school was originally held only during the spring and



summer quarters, but later it was held during the entire year. Small testaments were originally used, but later the quarterlies were used. Many township Sunday school conventions and one county Sunday school convention was held in the Buck Creek Church.

The ministerial service of the Buck Creek Church was by the local ministers until 1940, John R. Peters of California was the first full time pastor and he began his service on October 20, 1940. He continued until the spring of 1944 when he resigned and went back west. Charles Kenneth Fisher of Illinois became the second full time pastor, on February 17, 1945 and served until 1950, when Howard Breneman came.

The present deacons of the Buck Creek Church are E. N. Cross, A. J. Replogle, Marion Current, John E. Oxley and Frank Cross. The membership is 138.

### FAIRVIEW

Fairview was originally a part of the Pymont or North Fork Church which was organized in 1852. In 1872 the church was divided, the western part to be a separate church in Tippecanoe County. The first and only church building still stands. The timber for this church stood on the land owned by Peter Saltzman. Samuel Wagoner hauled the logs to the Jacob Felix saw mill and to the church site with oxen. Most of the labor and building material was donated. When the church was ready Elder R. H. Miller, Sr., preached the dedicatory sermon. Before and while the church was being erected, meetings were held in the barn which until recently was owned by Elder John W. and Lulu Root. The barn is still in use.

The new organization had sixty-six members with Elder John Shively, the first presiding officer. Brethren George Cripe from Warsaw, Indiana, and Isaac Billheimer from Tennessee, moved into the congregation. In order that Brother Cripe have a home, the church purchased four acres one mile southeast of the church, equipped with good buildings and gave it, with its proceeds, to Brother Cripe as long as he would live there and give his service to the church free. After several years Brother Billheimer moved to Middle Fork and Brother Cripe moved to Cerro Gordo, Illinois. He deeded the property to the Church Trustees.

Brethren Isaiah Quinn from Kansas and Samuel Ulery from Pymont moved into the church and served as leaders. Brother Ulery died and Brother Quinn retired. Brother Solomon Blickenstaff was Elder three years, Brother John Diehl one year, Brother David Dilling six years; then it was that Brother Levi T. Holsinger and son, Merton, ably filled the pulpit. Elder Benjamin Wray served seven years.

November 11, 1906, Brethren Jeremiah Barnhart and John W. Root were called with an almost unanimous vote into the minis-



try. Brethren Barnhart and Root served together until 1909, when Brother Barnhart moved to Pymont. In 1934 Brother Albert Harshbarger was ordained. Brother Ellis Wagoner was elected to the ministry at Fairview and Brother John Robert Wagoner was chosen August 14, 1938, Brother Ellis Wagoner moved away and Brother John Robert is a practicing physician living at Colburn, Ind. In January 1924 Elder John W. Root was given charge of the Fairview Church and continued pastor until March 1948, with the exception of two years (1934-1936) when Brother Albert Harshbarger was pastor. From 1907 until 1948, Brother and Sister Root lived and served in the Fairview church. They have given loyal devoted service. The failing health of Sister Root made it necessary to move into town. They live in Rossville and Brother Root's service is now lovingly given to his wife who has stood by him through all the years of his ministry. (Sister Root died in November, 1950.)

Brother Delmar Moyer and wife served as summer pastor in 1948. Brother and Sister Charles Bieber served from 1948 to June 1949 when they were commissioned to Africa. Brother Waldo Kinsel and family came in 1949. A parsonage has been purchased about one-fourth mile east of the church. In 1946, the Lafayette church was organized and eleven members were transferred.

At the organization of the church, Brethren Adam Sensenbaugh, Daniel Wagoner, Philip Drall, Isaac Wagoner and Thomas Welch were deacons. Since then the following have been deacons. Noah Ulery, Eli Miller, David Wagoner, and William Stewart. In 1920, Brethren Roy Brandt and Arthur Kirkwood were elected. In 1924, the church called Brethren Thomas Laprad, Joseph Fisher and Clarence Idle. In 1940, Brethren Lowell Brooks, Clyde Dick, Russel Miller, John E. Wagoner and Edgar Oaks were chosen to be deacons. Brother David Wagoner gave a lifetime of faithful service. The deacons now residing in the church are: Lowell Brooks, Joseph Fisher, and Edger Oaks.

During the past seventy years Brother Root tells us there have been twelve ministers, seven moved in and five were elected. With the exception of the last few years the church has been served by the free ministry. The present membership is ninety-six. Brother Albert Harshbarger and family reside in the congregation, he being the presiding Elder. Brother Waldo Kinsel and wife, graduates of Bethany Biblical Seminary live in the parsonage and serve as Pastors of the Fairview Church. (The Harshbargers have moved to Bainbridge.)

#### **FOUR MILE CHURCH**

The Four Mile church is the oldest Church of the Brethren in the State of Indiana. From her membership have gone many of the first



members of other churches so she may well be called the mother congregation for the state.

The first members came from Pennsylvania and Virginia, from 1804 to 1809. There were fourteen in all who settled near the waters of the Four Mile Creek, in what was then called the Twelve Mile Purchase of Indiana, but is now Union County, Indiana. The names of these pioneers are worth recording;—Christopher Witter, John Witter, John Moyer, Daniel Miller, Abraham Miller, James Huston, and their wives, and sisters Ann Lybrook and Phoebe Miller. Elder Jacob Miller, the pioneer preacher of the Bear Creek congregation, Ohio, having heard of these frontier members, came and preached for them occasionally. In 1809 he and Elder John Hart organized the church, which took the name of Four Mile, from the creek near by. John Moyer and Daniel Miller were chosen to the ministry in this new church, while Christopher Witter and Joseph Kingery were chosen deacons.

The church increased rapidly, both by migration and conversion. In 1813 Baltzer Lybrook was called to the ministry. He lived in the northern part on the farm now owned by Daniel Brower. He secured this land from the government and gave the ground for the Lybrook cemetery which is located on the farm. The other two ministers, Brethren Moyer and Miller lived more to the south. The membership being widely scattered, it was thought best to divide the territory into two congregations. That to the south took the name of Lower Four Mile, while that to the north was called Upper Four Mile.

At first Lower Four Mile church was strong and quite active. They built the first house of worship erected by the Brethren in Indiana. This was a frame structure, built during the forties, and stood near Four Mile Creek, two miles north of College Corner. It was about 40 x 50, and had a raised floor that gave the audience elevated seats. It was used until 1873. This was on what is known as the Kaufmann farm.

This congregation called a number of men to the ministry, many of whom moved away later. John Whiteneck was elected in 1842, moved to Wabash County in 1847, and founded the work of the Somerset Church. He had come to Union County from Virginia in 1825. In 1828 he married Lucy Kingery. Joseph McCarty resided at Four Mile a short time but moved to Hamilton County where he helped to build up the Stony Creek Church. John Hansel moved to Iowa. John Moyer, one of the first two ministers called also moved west. Daniel Miller was the last one of these early ministers to leave. He moved to South Bend about 1864, taking with him about twenty members. This so weakened the Lower Four Mile church that it



asked for, and secured, reunion with the Upper Four Mile church, hereafter known simply as Four Mile.

The Upper Four Mile had called a number of able men into service. Baltzer Lybrook served from 1813 until his death in 1830. About this time William Moss and his son Abraham Moss, were called to the ministry. In 1838 William Moss moved to Miami County, Indiana, and became the pioneer preacher and elder of the Mexico congregation. He had three sons who were ministers in the church of the Brethren, Abraham, William Jr. and Philip. Abraham was the only one of these sons to be elected at Four Mile. He was a very able preacher and served the church for twenty-five years. His preaching not only attracted the attention of his brethren, but he was widely known and highly respected by those outside the church. He served once on Standing Committee and often on other important committees. He died in August 1860, having been elder of the Four Mile church for twenty-five years.

Daniel Brower was elected in 1842 and served this congregation until his death, February 3, 1891, in his 87th year. Hiel Hamilton was elected November 1, 1845, but soon moved to Howard County, Indiana, where he became a great power for the church. Isaac Lawshe was elected to the ministry probably in New Jersey, from where he moved to Four Mile sometime in the thirties. In 1850 he was granted a letter to be presented to the Somerset church, which Elder John Whiteneck had been instrumental in founding. The copy of this letter is interesting and also the names which are signed to it. It reads as follows: "State of Indiana, Union County, April 6, 1850. We, your unworthy brethren and sisters on the Four Mile and White Water, do send our love to the brethren on Mississinewa or wheresoever these lines may come in the church of Christ. This is to inform you that Brother Isaac Lawshe and Sister Nancy Lawshe, his wife, are in full fellowship with the church here and he is a minister of the Gospel and is authorized to receive and exclude members by the council of the church, and we wish you to receive them as such. Signed by Abraham Moss, Daniel Brower, David Rinehart, Henry D. Lawshe, Daniel Dillman, Jacob Lybrook, James Toney, Philip Lybrook, Peter Eikenberry, Stephen Petry, Israel Brower, Barbara Kingery, Daniel Fiant, Jonas Fiant." We presume that not all of these were ministers and deacons but that some of the laymen must have signed the letter as well.

Up until this time these northern members must have been meeting in their homes for services or perhaps in the log school house on the old Squire Moss farm, which is now the Johnson farm. It was all timber then and located several rods south and east of the present Four Mile church. Miss Ollie Hart says that she remembers hearing



her mother, Maria Lybrook Hart, tell of going to the old log school house to church. Maria Hart was baptized November 16, 1849 by Abraham Moss. So from this it is likely that the log school house was also used for Church services. Another minister who was connected with the church was Peter Smith. It was he that baptized Philip Lybrook and his sons Jacob and John.

In 1857 John and Elizabeth Moss gave an acre of ground to be used as a site for a church building. The Warranty deed was made out May 26, 1857, and was entered for record Dec. 30, 1857, at the Recorder's office in Union County, Henry Husted being the recorder at that time. The deed in part reads as follows:

"This indenture witnesseth: That John and Elizabeth Moss, his wife, of Union County, in the State of Indiana, in consideration of the promotion of religion and for a site on which to build a meeting house known as the German Baptist Brethren, to be held by trustees and their successors in office of Union County, in the State of Indiana; the object whereof is hereby acknowledged; do hereby bargain and convey to the said trustees and their successors in office as long as the same shall be occupied for said use, and in case it is not so occupied, it is to revert back to the original tract;—"

Upon this ground the present church building was erected in 1857. It has been remodeled twice. The original church had a large fireplace in the north end and here the food for the communion services was prepared. A large crane supported the kettles where the meat was cooked. In 1895 or 96 the church was raised and a basement was put under it. At this time the fireplace was removed and a large brick stove was built in the basement. The food was prepared then on this stove and most of the meals were served in the basement. The communion and love feast was held in the main audience room. This room was heated by large wood burning stoves. There were two doors in the south and the pulpit was located between these two doors. People coming in late thus had to face the entire audience as they came in the door.

In 1913 the house was remodeled again. The two doors were removed and a large entrance and vestibule was built. The pulpit was placed in the north end. Sunday School rooms were built in the south end, the church was reseated and furnaces were installed. Thus an old building has been made to meet the changing needs.

The church organization remained as one but the scattered membership caused the building of other houses of worship. In 1875 a house was built just east and south of Cottage Grove about a mile. This replaced the building north of College Corner which had been torn down in 1873. For a time a very active membership lived and



worked here. In the course of time the work died. This building was finally sold in 1929.

In 1868 a church was built four miles northeast of Connerville, which was known as the Whitewater church house. This is in Waterloo township in Fayette County. The following is taken from the History of Fayette County, published in 1885, which reads thus: "On either side of what is called Four Mile Creek, in eastern Indiana and western Ohio, from 1804 to 1809 settled fourteen families coming principally from the states of Virginia and Pennsylvania. These people were members of the German Baptist church before their migration.

"Elder Jacob Miller, who is thought to have been the first German Baptist minister who preached west of the Great Miami River, came occasionally from Bear Creek in Ohio and here preached for this membership, which was organized by him, with the assistance of John Hart and Mr. Bolton. In subsequent years the church increased in numbers, two districts were formed and a second meeting house was erected in the southern part of Union County, this state. Subsequently a membership was formed in Waterloo Township, among whom were John Moyer, Samuel and Elizabeth McLinster, Salome Fiant, Sarah Moyer, Mrs. Daniel Fiant, (the first member of this denomination in the community.) Daniel Jamiey, Susannah Strong, Catherine Priser, Martin Fiant, Mrs. Fiant, John Moss, Elizabeth Dise, Jonas and Mary Fiant, Samuel and Catherine Crick, Ada Simpson, John Fiant and wife, Hannah, Polly McFerrin, Lewis Payton and wife, Elizabeth, and Susannah Ward."

"Their house of worship, a frame structure, was built in 1868, the building committee being, Jonas Fiant, John Fiant, and Isaac Pritchard. Prior to the building of the church edifice, meetings were held in dwellings and barns. Among the ministers who have served the charge have been John Moyer, William Moss, Abraham Moss, Daniel Miller, Daniel Brown, and Jacob Rife. Preaching was held once in four weeks, the membership being about fifty."

From the time of the writing of this history the church continued to grow and finally in 1913 a separate organization, New Bethel, was formed. Samuel Payton was the minister and Peter and Elmer Fiant were deacons. They had a nice church, well equipped and hope was strong that this might become a permanent church. Reverses came and the work gradually went down until no services were held for a number of years. In 1933 the church was disorganized and most of the remaining members have again placed their membership with the Four Mile Church.

Another church was bought at West Florence in 1886. This house was purchased from the community, it being owned by several



denominations. There never was a strong membership near this place but work was carried on here for some time. The council meetings alternated between the four houses, there being one quarterly council at each house in a year. Likewise the services were held so that each church had one service a month. In the days of horse and buggy travel it was no small task for the minister to drive from Connersville to West Florence, or from Boston to Cottage Grove. Samuel Payton, Jacob Rife, Carey Toney and others made these drives and kept the work going in this way. This house was kept open until 1908 when it was sold.

September 16, 1852, the church called Jacob Rife to the ministry. He was a born preacher and for more than fifty years was a power for good, not only in his local congregation, but also in the District and Brotherhood.

Other ministers who were called during this period are as follows: Alfred Moore, 1862, who later joined the Old Order Brethren; Carey Toney and William McWhorter, 1876; Edward M. Cobb 1891, Samuel Payton, 1892, Frederick Viney and Charles Quick, 1899, and C. C. Petry in 1904. After Elder Rife's death in 1903, Elder Carey Toney was elected elder of the church and served until 1913. Upon his resignation Elder J. W. Rarick of Muncie was elected and served as overseer of the church until 1919. Elder L. L. Teeter of Mooreland served for three years, 1919-1921.

The deacons of the church are found in the following list and the date of their election when it is known. Christopher Witter and Joseph Kingery, 1809; Samuel Kingery, David Rinehart, Henry Eikenberry, Daniel Eikenberry: Jonas Fiant 1852; John Fiant 1862; Martin Witter 1862; Abraham Rife and Isaac Hart, 1866; Francis Young and John Brower, 1885; David Rinehart 1892; Baltzer Lybrook, Jr., Peter Fiant, Henry Young, Elmer Fiant, Henry Fitzsimmons; John Sheets Sr. in 1896; Samuel Gilmer, Ben Sheets, John Sheets; I. S. Hart 1905; and Joe Brower 1910.

Feeling the need of a full time pastor the first supported pastor was called. For some time most of the preaching had been done by Rev. J. W. Rarick who lived north of Muncie. This did not prove very satisfactory so Rev. A. P. Musselman was called in 1919. He came in the fall of this year and remained five years, when he accepted a call to the Flora Church of Middle Indiana. With the coming of a pastor the church now took on new life and was the beginning of a very active period in church work. Upon Elder Teeter's resignation as elder of the church, A. P. Musselman was elected presiding elder which position he filled until 1925. F. E. McCune was the next pastor. He came in the fall of 1924 and remained five years when he resigned and went to Mt. Morris, Ill. Bro. McCune was elder from



1925 until 1929. Elder L. S. Shively was elected as overseer of the church in 1929. From September 1929 until May 1930 the pulpit was supplied by outside ministers. In May of 1930 the Rev. E. R. Fisher came as the pastor. Upon Bro. Shively's resignation Bro Fisher was elected elder in the fall of 1930. Brother Fisher resigned in 1936 and moved to Trotwood, Ohio. Remembering the good services of Bro. F. E. McCune he was again asked to shepherd the Four Mile church. He remained from 1936 until 1947 when he and his good wife moved to Baltic, Ohio. Brother Raymond Ridsen accepted the call of the Four Mile church and served from 1947 till 1950.

When the matter of a supported pastor came up there was a need for a parsonage. In order to make this possible four men offered to buy a place for the pastor to live. These brethren were I. S. Hart, S. E. Edgeworth, David Rinehart, and Daniel Brower. A house was bought in Kitchel, 1919, which has since remained the home of the pastors. In 1926 the church assumed the payment of the parsonage and it was then turned over to the trustees of the church.

During most of the history of the church there were a number of resident ministers who took turns in preaching. These men earned a living and ministered to the spiritual need of the church as well. Much honor is due them for this sacrificial labor. After the death of Carey Toney in March 2, 1926 and Charles Quick Feb. 28, 1929, there has been no other minister in the congregation except the pastor.

In about 1905 a Christian Workers Society was organized. This was for many years a very strong and active society. From this many of the present leaders of the church have come as well as some workers who have gone out from the church.

The missionary interest of the church has always been strong. Many leaders have gone out from Four Mile and are now serving in other parts of the brotherhood. Out of the missionary spirit fostered in the home and the church has gone one missionary; she is, Sister Sue Rinehart Heisey, daughter of David and Fannie Rinehart who offered herself for the foreign mission field. She and her husband, Walter J. Heisey, have spent 15 years on the China Mission field. They are now located at Grundy Center, Iowa, as pastors of the church there.

Other ministers who grew up at Four Mile are E. M. Cobb, Alexander Stout, Lawrence White, Elmer Petry, and Clarence Gilmour. E. M. Cobb after gaining considerable prominence in the church joined the Progressive Brethren church, and has held pastorates in Dayton, and California. He later located in Indianapolis, Ind., in interdenominational work, he died July 2, 1941. Alexander Stout was elected to the ministry at Four Mile; after many years away he has returned. Lawrence White grew up in the Whitewater church, and



was called to the ministry there. He is now teaching school at Napanee, Ind. Elmer Petry spent several years in the Four Mile Church. He resided in North Dakota for a period of time, where he was called to the ministry. He is now at Hamilton, Ohio. Others who are filling other places of service might also be mentioned if space permitted. I. S. Hart served for 29 years as treasurer and 30 years as church clerk.

A review of the history of Four Mile records some interesting changes. Indians roved over this territory and often these pioneers were in danger. When the first members came to this country it was all in timber. Bro. Jacob Miller who helped organize the church had some interesting experiences with the Indians. The following is taken from the *History of the Church of the Brethren in Indiana*, by Otho Winger,—“The land was a dense forest, inhabited by many Indians. Elder Miller visited these children of the forest and sang and prayed for them. He gained not only their reverence and respect, but their promise of protection under all circumstances. They called him The Good Man the Great Spirit sent from the East.” No doubt many other interesting stories might be told. Some of the early history of the church was lost when the church records burned about 1899.

Many can still remember, however, some of the big meetings they used to have at Four Mile. These love feasts were attended by many from adjoining congregations and were great times in the social life of the church. Not only was the entire church present but usually the whole community turned out. These meetings usually began in the afternoon with preaching. Visiting ministers came from a distance who took turns preaching. In the evening preparations were made for the love feast and communion service. The seats were rearranged and tables were placed in the audience room for the common meal. Much time had been spent in gathering up food sufficient for the meals that were to be served not only to the guests of the church but to everyone who came. The love feast was for members of the church only. With the spiritual preparations which came from the sermons of the afternoon and the examination sermon before the service of the evening it made the occasion one of great influence.

Visiting members stayed in the homes of the members, sleeping on the floor when the bed space was exhausted. The children looked forward to these occasions as one of great joy. For the social occasions were scarce in those days. The next morning breakfast was served at the church to all who cared to come. These meals were free and thus brought many from far and near who were not members of the church. Usually these love feasts were on Saturday evening. Soon after breakfast on Sunday morning the visiting ministers would call the meeting together. Preaching continued until noon, each minister



taking his turn. These ministers sat on one side of a long table while the deacons sat on the opposite side. These long tables were the only pulpits. Often in regular services the deacons were asked to read the scriptures. Dinners were again served on Sunday, after which those from a distance bade their friends good-bye, and started by horse and buggy to their homes. Many times it was far into the night until they reached home, as some came from twenty to forty miles away.

These were of great value to the church in maintaining the spirit of fellowship and also helped to unify the congregations and make the church really brethren. As we look back on the way they had to do, using the fireplace, candles, traveling by log wagon or horse and buggy, it seemed like real hardships. But in spite of hard work they lived simply and perhaps more happily than we do today with all our conveniences.

One hundred and forty-one years is a long time for the church to serve in a community. We cannot estimate the good that has been done. No doubt mistakes were made. Perhaps they were at times too conservative and narrow in their views. But in so doing they saved themselves from many temptations that have been the downfall of many others. We must pay tribute to the sacrifices that were made that the church might be here.

The present membership is one hundred and fifty-four. The Pastor is Brother Pius Gibble.

### HOWARD

The first members to settle in Howard County came from Union County, Indiana. Among these were Brethren Hiel Hamilton, David Overholser, Joel Brower, Christian Kingery and their wives. Brother Hamilton having been chosen for the ministry Dec. 1, 1845, began to preach the gospel in some of the wildest parts of Indiana. His strong preaching and his godly life had good effects upon the people and drew many into the kingdom.

Howard County Church was organized as a separate body in 1852. It then included all of Howard and parts of Clinton and Tipton Counties. In 1856 Brother Hamilton was ordained and given oversight of the church. Under his active missionary work and leadership the church became strong. We have no exact dates for much of its work. Daniel Welty, Christian Kingery, Josiah Woods, and Alvin Eikenberry were some of the early deacons. Joel Brower was called to the ministry in 1853, Christian Kingery, 1854, John Rinehart 1865, Jacob Hamilton, son of Elder Hiel Hamilton, was called to the ministry in 1865, and later moved to Kansas. Samuel Bock, an elder, from Dayton, Ohio, and his son, Daniel, a minister, moved in in 1874.



The meeting house was built in 1865. At first it was located south of Wild Cat Creek. Here some of the Musselmans, Cripes and Eikenberries lived. The place was difficult to reach for those living north of the creek. Then when some of the older ones passed away, it was decided in 1886 to move the church to the present position, eleven miles west of Kokomo and four miles northeast of Burlington.

The division in the church in 1881 struck this congregation hard. The membership was then one hundred and sixty. Two of the ministers, John Rinehart and Joel Brower, two of the three deacons, Jonas Brubaker and Ephraim Woods and about one third of the membership went with the Old Order Brethren.

Soon after this the church called John S. Brubaker to the ministry in 1883. He moved to California where he died in 1913. Aaron Moss moved to Howard in 1885 and moved away in 1891. In June 1895 W. L. Hatcher was chosen for the ministry, he later moved to Grant County. John W. Flora and William Burns were elected ministers in 1900. Wm. Burns later moved to Flora. Chester Poff and Elmer Phipps both served in the ministry here. Dolar Ritchey was elected to the ministry in 1927 and ordained in 1928. Robert Sink was ordained Dec. 5, 1918.

In 1886 Daniel Bock was ordained and succeeded Elder Hiel Hamilton as presiding Elder. He was followed by Elder Jacob Cripe. Brother Peter Houk moved in in 1888 and had the oversight of the church until 1911. He was a native of Germany. He was chosen for the ministry in the Lower Fall Creek Church in 1885. He was ordained by Elders John Caylor and Isaac Branson in 1894. He was presiding Elder for fifteen years until he moved to the Pipe Creek Church in Middle Ind. He helped and encouraged the forming of the Kokomo Church. Elders who have fathered the Howard Church since Bro. Houk are; John W. Flora, 1913 intermittently until 1930, L. E. Ockerman, one year 1920, L. L. Paul, 1932, Gilbert Stinebaugh 1930, Ray O. Shank 1934, Russell Showalter 1937. Thomas Shively is the present Elder.

Brother L. E. Ockerman served in the free ministry as did all the preceding Brethren. Brother Ockerman served from 1918-1926. Dolar Ritchey 1927-1928. Others are: James Hunter, Roy Ritchie, and Paul Kendall. Brother Perry Coblentz is now serving the Howard Church. Much of the Church's success was due to the work and influence of Brother John W. Flora. He served as Elder, pastor, janitor, chorister. Their home was a congenial place and many Brethren, evangelists, and young people met there to sing and pray. His first wife passed away in 1922. He was married to Ella Dilling, daughter of Elder David Dilling of Monticello, who was also a good



wife and helper. He was called to his reward Dec. 23, 1937, following a short illness with pneumonia.

In 1918 the church received nine members by letter from the Old Order Church. In the past year several new members have been received by baptism and by letter. Brother and Sister Coblentz are serving faithfully and the membership is sixty three.

The deacons elected in the Howard Church are: Everett Lybrook, Everett Henry, and Howard Deardorff who with their wives were installed in 1920. William Brook and wife were elected March 1930. They now have a Board of Deacon Helpers chosen in 1947. They are: Harley Brubaker, Earl Brubaker, and Lon R. Ewing.

### INDIANAPOLIS

Unlike many of our Southern Indiana churches, Indianapolis was not started by any one church. P. H. Beery, a teacher, and Charity Himes Brubaker, from the Ladoga Church, with Alice Boone as missionary started the work with their first public service Thanksgiving day, 1901. They met in a rented hall on the corner of State and Hoyt St. One year later the first love feast was held with seventeen members communing. Clara Stauffer (Wolf) was now the missionary and P. H. Beery the pastor, supported in part by Southern Ind. Mission Board.

In 1903 Franklin Hoffert conducted a Sunday School at 57 Germania Ave., which is now Belleview Place. Here a lot was purchased and a building was begun in 1903 and finished early in 1905. The dedication was in Nov., 1905, with Rev. E. M. Cobb giving the dedicatory sermon. J. W. Rarick was the pastor, and Brother William Harshbarger the Elder. The first minister to be elected was Brother Samuel A. Hylton, Nov. 22, 1906, with Brother George Hahn as the first deacon. The next year, April 1907, Brother George Hahn was elected to the ministry, and Brother Robert Weeks was chosen as deacon. As one looks back over the history of the Indianapolis Church we realize that these three men, Samuel Hylton, George Hahn and Robert Weeks, always faithful in service and stewardship, have been the constant supporters and builders of the church. Brother Hahn moved away in 1936. Robert Weeks was accidentally killed Dec. 28, 1938. Bro. Hylton is now an Elder and is active in the work of the congregation.

In 1906 Brother Isaac Branson was made presiding Elder and served until 1910 when Bro. J. C. Murray who had been pastor was elected Elder.

Brother Carl Rarick was elected to the ministry in Jan. 1910. Mary Stoner (Wine) was mission worker June 1909 until 1910.



During the years 1910 until 1919 Brethren S. A. Hylton and George Hahn served as pastors in the free ministry.

On Feb. 5, 1917, the church was released from the care of the District Mission Board and became an independent congregation. The congregation was designated as the First Church of the Brethren, Indianapolis.

In 1920 the congregation purchased a parsonage near the church on Bellevue Place.

In May, 1923, the church property was sold to the City Park Board for park purposes at a consideration of \$12,000. On January 1, 1924 the church purchased the building of the Grace Presbyterian Church, located at 3201 North Capitol Avenue. The transfer was made promptly to the new location and formal dedication services were held on May 11, 1924 with Dr. Otho Winger preaching the dedication sermon.

In order to retain the publicity value of the name so long attached to this church building, the congregation on December 28, 1923 voted to change the name of the congregation to the *Grace Church of the Brethren*.

In November, 1925, the parsonage on Bellevue Place was sold for \$3,800. On May 8, 1928, the church letters of Elder and Sister Frank E. Hay were received. Their moving to Indianapolis was a blessing to the work of the congregation. On February 10, 1929, the congregation suffered a great loss in the death of Bro. F. M. Bowers, a consecrated layman of great ability, whose counsel and financial assistance had meant much to the church in its period of moving to the new location on Capitol Avenue, as well as during the many years at the old location.

On April 14, 1935 a new baptistry constructed behind the pulpit was dedicated with Dr. R. H. Miller preaching the dedicatory sermon. Seven persons were baptized on this occasion. A very substantial residence was purchased for use as a parsonage at 3165 Kenwood Avenue on June 12, 1941 (consideration, \$3,000).

On May 10, 1943 the name of the congregation was officially changed again to *The First Church of the Brethren*. The observance of World Communion Day on the first Sunday in October was adopted on April 10, 1945 as a permanent part of the calendar of the congregation.

The congregation has had a Ladies Aid Society from the very beginning. In 1925, under the leadership of Bro. and Sister George L. Studebaker, the women's organization was divided into a First Division and a Second Division, with some differentiation in the purposes and activities of each division. This continued for one year, and in 1926 the Second Division adopted the name, The Loyal Circle, while



the First Division used the name, The Sisters' Aid Society. Since 1931 the two organizations have been united under the name of The Loyal Circle and have been maintaining a very effective program.

In 1925 the men organized The Men's Council of Promotion. In September, 1937, the Pastor, Clinton I. Weber, recommended the formation of a men's organization and shortly thereafter the present Men's Work group was established.

On October 24, 1948 the congregation observed a Homecoming Anniversary with a sermon by I. D. Leatherman and talks by former members, including Mary Stoner Wine who served as a missionary in the early days of the work in Indianapolis. The observance of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the church was held in 1951.

Ordinations of ministers were, S. A. Hylton, 1906; Geo. W. Hahn, 1907; W. Carl Rarick (2nd Degree) 1910; Paul Longenecker, 1920; Floyd McGuire (withdrew, 1936) 1930.

Ordinations to the eldership were, Geo. W. Hahn, 1915; Harry K. Zeller, 1942; and S. A. Hylton, 1943.

The following have served as elder-in-charge: P. H. Beery, 1901-05; William Harshbarger, 1905-06; Isaac Branson, 1906-10 and 1911-12; J. C. Murray, 1910; A. C. Young, 1910-11; D. F. Hoover, 1912-13; Henry Fadely, 1913-14, 1915-17; D. E. Bowman, 1914-15; J. A. Miller, 1917; J. W. Norris, 1917-18, 1922-23; W. Carl Rarick, 1918-19; S. G. Greyer, 1919-22; H. C. Early, 1923-25; I. B. Wike, 1925-26; George L. Studebaker, 1926-1932; George W. Hahn, 1932-33; F. E. Hay, 1933-45; S. A. Hylton, 1945; R. C. Wenger, 1945-49; R. L. Showalter, 1949-

The following have served as pastors: P. H. Beery (ass't. by Clara E. Stouffer) 1901-04; J. W. Rarick, 1905-06; George Mishler, 1906-07; D. E. Sower, 1907-08; W. Carl Rarick, assisted by Mary Stoner (Wine), 1909-10; J. C. Murray, 1910; Sister W. Carl Rarick (mission worker), 1910-11; S. G. Greyer, 1919-22; S. A. Hylton, 1922; C. A. Wright, 1922-24; G. L. Studebaker, 1925-31; Russell G. West, 1931-35; Clinton I. Weber, 1936-38; Harry K. Zeller, 1940-43; I. D. Leatherman, 1943-45; Russell C. Wenger, 1945-49; Dan Long, 1949-

The following have served as Sunday-school superintendents: (figures are number of years)—Franklin Hoffert (4), W. Carl Rarick (2), S. A. Hylton (6), Stella Abby (1), Wm. A. Lawrence (1), J. J. Kintner (6), Helen Guynn (1), Floyd McQuire (2), Vernon Fairburn (2), Wilbur S. Barnhart (7), D. D. Hylton (5), M. B. Stump (2), Raphael Wolfe (1), Leonard Blickenstaff (1), Paul Keller (1), Arnold Hanna (3), Arthur Shull (3), and James Barnhart since 1948.

The present membership is one hundred seventy-five.



**KOKOMO**

Kokomo was on the boundary between the Howard and Plevna churches. Plevna has become the Dunkard Brethren Church.

In 1897 Elder Daniel Bock and wife and Sister Cynthia Deardorff moved into Kokomo. Sister Deardorff was the daughter of Elder Hiel Hamilton and widow of Silas Deardorff. The first services were held in the home of Granville McClaines, and later moved to a room in the city hall and later meetings were held in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. Chester Poff and Elmer Phipps were early workers. In 1912 Brother L. E. Ockerman, a minister from Ohio, moved into the congregation. He was of great service to the Church. He was a preacher of ability and his daily life counted for much. He was ordained April 23, 1915. Brother Peter Houk was interested in the possibilities and helped much to encourage the Brethren in Kokomo.

The District Mission Board placed Brother Ockerman as pastor and J. W. Root as Elder. The church was given permission to solicit money of the congregations in the district for funds to build a church house. The building committee was Brethren John Flora, John Root, Alvin Rogers, Leslie E. Ockerman and Samuel Williams. The building cost \$3,764.35, and is still the Kokomo house of worship. It was dedicated Nov. 5, 1916, Brother Otho Winger, President of Manchester College, delivering the sermon.

In 1917 the membership numbered sixty-six.

The Elders ordained at Kokomo are: Leslie E. Ockerman, April 23, 1915; Oscar D. Werking, Dec. 17, 1917; Alva Hewitt, March 11, 1929. Other ministers are Roy S. Richey, Dec. 2, 1940 and Byron P. Royer, April 7, 1946.

The Deacons are: Alvin Rogers, Nov. 27, 1914; Nixon Capp, Dec. 17, 1917; Otto Endsley, Dec. 17, 1917; Lloyd Capp, Oct. 24, 1921 (not now in the church); Chester Hiatt, Oct. 24, 1921; Homer Clelland (inactive); Walter Hoppes, April 7, 1946; Donald E. Meyer, April 7, 1946; Charles Rogers, Oct. 16, 1949; Arthur Green, Oct. 16, 1949; and Lawrence Deardorff, Oct. 16, 1949.

Brethren Chester W. Poff, Alva Hewitt, Perry Coblentz and Leslie Ockerman served in the free ministry.

The Elders of the church since 1914 who served are as follows: John Flora, 1914-1915; John Root, 1916-1918, 1920-1921; Oscar D. Werking, 1919-1920; E. O. Norris, 1921-1922; J. A. Miller, 1922-1929,

**Indianapolis**

**Ladoga**

**Middletown**

**Nettle Creek (Brick)**

**Kokomo**

**Maple Grove**

**Muncie**

**Locust Grove**







1931-1932, 1935-1937; J. G. Stinebaugh, 1929-1931; Perry Coblentz, 1932-1935; T. A. Shively, 1937-1944; R. L. Showalter, 1944-1950.

Pastors serving Kokomo Church are: Chester Poff, 1914-(?); Oscar Werking, 1917-1920; Fred Fair, 1920-1922; J. A. Miller, 1922-1925; J. G. Stinebaugh, 1929-1931; R. M. Lantis, 1937-1938; Robert Sherfy, 1938-1941; Isaiah Oberholtzer, 1941-1942; Roy S. Richey, 1942-1944; Robert A. Byerly, 1944-1951.

The Sunday School Superintendents since 1913 are: Alvin Rodgers, 1913-1916; Luther Archer, 1917-1920; Grace Hiatt, 1920-1921; Chester Hiatt, 1922-1923; Harry Murphy, 1923-1924, 1926, 1933-1936; Harley Ronk, 1925, 1927-1929, 1937-1938; Howard T. Deardorff, 1930-1933; Roy Fife, 1934, 1941-1942; Roy S. Richey, 1937, 1938-1941; Byron P. Royer, 1942-1944; Lawrence Deardorff, 1944-1945, 1948-1950; Donald E. Meyer, 1945-1948.

On November 22, 1949, Anna and Karapet Garibian came to Kokomo from an U.N.R.R.A. Camp in Stuttgart, Germany. The Kokomo church opened their homes and shared their goods with these once unfortunate DP's. The Garibians are Armenian folk who speak mostly Russian, but also can speak German, Polish, Armenian and now are becoming acquainted with the English language. Mr. Garibian is a professional violinist. The pastor and wife, Brother and Sister Robert Byerly, shared the parsonage with their Armenian friends and helped them to get started in the "new life." This experience has been a splendid testimony for the church, and has also brought blessing to the church as well as to those who were unfortunate victims of war. The membership of the Kokomo church is one hundred twenty-three.

### LADOGA

In 1826 Elder William R. and Mary Smith moved from Darke Co., Ohio, to Putnam Co., Indiana, and settled on the Big Raccoon Creek. Elizabeth Roberts, Jacob and Hannah Ronk, Henry and Frances Moss, and others moved the same year. We have no papers showing the date of the organization of the church but no doubt it was organized at once with W. R. Smith as its first bishop. William and Sarah Guiliams, Mary Smith and Christian Landis came in the fall of 1827.

In the autumn of 1829 an election was held for two deacons. Jacob Ronk and Alexander Smith were chosen. The letters of Jacob Garver and Sarah Garver, his wife, are dated September 26, 1830. In his letter he is recommended as "house father and bishop with us on Obion Creek." It does not give the name of the church, county, or State. It is signed by Brethren James McCoy Spea, Joseph Moyers, Abraham Miller, William Souder and William Pringle.

About 1830 Daniel Miller and wife moved from the Four Mile Church, Union County, Ind., and located near the east line of Park



County, Indiana, on the Big Raccoon. He was a bishop. Thomas Miller and wife, Sally, moved from the Four Mile Church with letters dated July 2, 1832. They located in Putnam County, Indiana.

An election for a minister was held in the Raccoon Church District in 1835. Brother Thomas Miller was elected. He moved to Missouri in 1847 or 1848. In 1837 Francis Meyers was called to the ministry and Samuel Britts to the office of deacon.

In their early days they had their troubles. Elder W. R. Smith wanted to hold church meetings publicly. Deacon Ronk and others said it was not according to the rules of the Brethren. They sent for Brethren Boenin and Wine of Virginia who came on horseback to the little organization on Raccoon Creek. They heard the case and decided the Ronks were right and that Smith was wrong. For this and other reasons the church was put under the care of Daniel Miller.

In the thirties the Harshbargers, Meyers, Britts, Graybills, Petfleys, Stoners, and Ronks came from Virginia and settled around Ladoga. This was quite encouraging to the little church. On Aug. 21, 1846, at the home of Elder Jacob Garver, on Raccoon Creek, Jeremiah Wooden was called to the ministry. Elder William Gish moved into the church in 1847 and became its third elder. About this time Daniel Miller and Francis Meyers moved to Iowa where they died.

In 1848 the first church house was built in the south part of Montgomery County, called Cool Spring meetinghouse. Thus we see the church worshiped in homes for twenty-two years. In 1853 Daniel Himes and Eversley Burk were elected to the ministry. August, 1857, John Guilliams and George Stover were elected deacons. Matthias Frantz, who came from Botetourt, Virginia, was ordained in 1856. He lived to be nearly 90 and died in 1898.

August 16, 1858, an election was held for two ministers. Robert H. Miller and Daniel Stoner were elected (Daniel Stoner was the Bro. of David Stoner, Samuel Stoner's father.). This election was in charge of Hiel Hamilton, Samuel Murray, Daniel Himes, and Wesley Burkett. At this time Brother Matthias Frantz was bishop. We have no date of his taking charge. The papers showing the date of Robert Miller's advancement and installation are lost. His house was burned in 1863, with all of its contents, including valuable church papers. He was bishop of the church from some time in the early sixties till Oct. 22, 1880.

In September, 1864, an election was held resulting in the calling of Martin Neher to the ministry and Jacob Neff to the office of deacon. April 27, 1867, Jacob Mahorney and William R. Harshbarger were elected to the ministry. October 8, 1867, David Peffley and Samuel Rettinger were chosen deacons. William Harshbarger was advanced to the second degree and Jacob Neff was elected to the ministry. At this



time William Frame, John Neff, and Jacob Himes were elected deacons. October 22, 1890, William R. Harshbarger was ordained and the church put under his care.

December 6, 1881, there were elected to the ministry William Lauter, Thomas Watkins and Thomas Everson; William Lauter died in Putnam County, Thomas Watkins died in California, and Thomas Everson died in the Ladoga church.

L. T. Holsinger and family moved into this church some time in the year 1888 and rendered valuable service during their seven years' stay.

October 1890, Samuel D. Stoner was called to the ministry, advanced to the second degree October, 1899 and ordained to the eldership January 4, 1904. Howard H. Keim and wife came from Pennsylvania January 19, 1891. He was ordained in the eldership May 22, 1897. They moved to Newberg, Oregon, in 1910 and from there to Nampa, Idaho, where he died, 1951.

January 13, 1891, the following deacons were elected: William Hicks, Jesse Ronk, Frank Rose, John Himes, and Wilford Harshbarger. May 31, 1900, E. N. Goshorn was chosen minister and Charles Caylor deacon. May 31, 1906, E. N. Goshorn was forwarded to the second degree of the ministry and Clayton Mahorney was chosen deacon. February 29, 1908, E. N. Goshorn was ordained to the eldership, succeeding William Harshbarger and in January, 1909, was chosen bishop of the church which position he held until his death, April 15, 1930. He became bishop of Mt. Pleasant church July 3, 1909, and held that position until July, 1911. The presiding elders since 1930 are: John Root, June to December, 1930; V. B. Browning, December, 1930, to March, 1935; W. J. Heisey, 1935-1942; A. P. Musselman, 1942-1947; Albert Harshbarger, 1947-.

In 1861 the second house was built in Putnam County and called Little Walnut. In 1869 the third house was built, one and one half miles north of Ladoga and called Bethel. This is the only church whose doors are still open. In 1888 Mount Pleasant church house was built about four and one half miles east of Ladoga in Montgomery County. In 1894 the fifth house was built in Boone County about eighteen miles east of Ladoga and ten miles south of Lebanon known as Bethany. An Elder, Brother Bowser, and family moved into this church but he died of typhoid fever a few months later. He was the only resident elder to live in this church. William Hicks and Oscar Harrison, both deceased, were the deacons. The church was closed about 1921.

The Little Walnut church was organized December 1, 1892, with fifty members. William Harshbarger was bishop with Zimri Marker and Hiram Heady deacons. The membership became quite small and



was disorganized in 1923. Most of the members moving their letters to Ladoga.

The Mount Pleasant Church was organized as a separate church January 4, 1904, with eighty-seven members and ninety-four members in the Ladoga church. Samuel Stoner was elected presiding elder with Elder H. H. Keim associate minister. Jesse Ronk and Charley Caylor deacons. Sister Emma Norris Miller, the widow of Robert H. Miller, moved into the Mount Pleasant church about four years after her husband's death. She was a great blessing to this church. Her godly life and mental keenness fitted her for any duty that was given her. Being the sister of Lina Stoner, the wife of Samuel D. Stoner, she sought the fellowship of kindred in the Lord and in the flesh. She was the mother of four small sons. Twenty members moved to Tennessee. May Manners went to do mission work in Ottumwa, Iowa. Bro. H. H. Keim and Bro. Jesse Ronk moved to Oregon and California, respectively. The presiding elders of Mt. Pleasant were Samuel Stoner, S. F. Sanger and E. N. Goshorn. Samuel Stoner was presiding Elder for thirty years. W. J. Heisey was Elder 1935-1937. The church was served largely by the free ministry.

Pastors who have served Mount Pleasant are: Otto L. Minnick, 1921-1922; Alvin Brightbill, 1927-1928; Walter J. Heisey, 1934-1937.

Charles W. Ronk and David L. Stoner were elected to the ministry Aug., 1908. Robert H. Miller was elected Jan. 1, 1911, and ordained 1917 in the South Los Angeles Church (now Calvary) by the Elders George Chamberlin and N. J. Brubaker. Jesse D. Ronk and Daniel L. Miller were elected to the ministry and ordained.

John Edgar Stoner and Benjamin O. Stoner were elected to the ministry.

Mt. Pleasant merged with the parent Ladoga church, Oct. 9, 1937. During the thirty-three years that Mount Pleasant church stood the above several ministers were chosen. David Stoner died in 1915, while a useful young man. Brethren Jesse Ronk and son Charles, both Elders, died in California and Idaho, respectively. Robert H. Miller has been a successful pastor and is now teaching Bible at Manchester College. Daniel Miller serves in the free ministry in the Ladoga Church. Dr. John E. Stoner and Benjamin Stoner, while ministers, serve in Education and business at Indiana University, Bloomington, Ind., and Cincinnati, Ohio, respectively. Mrs. W. W. Peters and Mrs. G. L. Wine were reared in the Mt. Pleasant church, being the two daughters in the Samuel D. and Lina N. Stoner family. Three other children, sons, making their contribution. Paul and family residing at the Stoner homestead near the Ladoga church are active in service. The Ladoga church elected Albert Harshbarger to the ministry in 1933.

Pastors serving the Ladoga church are: Leo H. Miller, 1920-1924;



B. F. Summer, J. W. Heisey, 1935-1937; Lewis Deardorff, 1937-1943; Cletus Deardorff, Herbert Fisher and Ernest Jehnsen, and Lloyd Evans. Robert L. Heeter is the present pastor. The deacons are: Oliver N. Miller, Delbert E. Williams and Clayton Mahorney.

The present membership is eighty.

### LAFAYETTE

Lafayette is the newest church organization in Southern Indiana. Quite a few loyal members have moved into the city to find work and to build homes, and some are students in Purdue. Most of these people are from Fairview, Rossville and Pymont churches. The first meeting was at Columbian Park. The first public worship was led by Brother Harold Michael and held in the University Presbyterian Church, March, 1946. There were a few services held in the Y. W. C. A. until it was arranged to meet in the Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Brother Michael served from March until October, 1946, when his health made it necessary for him to resign. At that time Eugene Gnagy who was in Bethany seminary came to Lafayette over the weekends until his graduation in June, 1947, when he moved to Lafayette. He served from June, 1947, until September, 1948, when he moved to Fort Wayne.

The District and General Mission Boards assist the church in financial support.

The first administration meeting was held in the home of Brother and Sister George Hildreth September 14, 1946. A Pastor's Council was formed. Brethren Hymnals were purchased. It was advised that all who could were to buy two hymnals, one for the church and one to take home. A communion was held in the spring of 1947.

Brother Kenneth Hartman, a ministerial student at Bethany Seminary comes each week since the fall of 1948. Since his graduation, in 1950, he lives and serves in Lafayette.

The church has purchased a fine location for a church building at the corner of Eighteenth, Central and State Streets. Plans are under way to erect a fully equipped modern church house. The membership is sixty-three.

### MAPLE GROVE

The Lick Creek Church was organized September 28, 1852, with thirteen members. This small nucleus of membership began near Clay City in the southern part of Clay County. Elder Jacob Kaub was the first minister. On the day of organization George Long was elected minister and Samuel Burger, deacon.

In 1870 the first meeting house was built in the western part of Owen County, just across the line from Clay County. This house was



named Denmark and was about six miles east of Clay City. The Church grew through migration and conversions and in 1881 there were eighty members.

Later the membership extended to the north of Clay City and the second house was built in 1905, about three miles northeast of Saline City. This house was named Maple Grove. Both Denmark and Maple Grove were in the organization known as the Lick Creek congregation and were presided over by the same Elder until August 28, 1916. At that time it was decided to be under District direction.

The membership of this church has never been large yet many leaders have come from this congregation. Some of these are Elder Jacob Sommers, David Culler Sr., the Goshorns, Annetta Mow, the Mitchells, Campbells, Brother and Sister Charles Dumond of Topeka, Kansas, G. W. Kieffaber and Goldie Killion. Brother Sommers was a native of Pennsylvania, and married Martha Ockerman, they lived together more than fifty years. They were the parents of thirteen children and at the time of his death in 1871 there were one hundred and two grandchildren and thirty-six great-grandchildren.

Brother D. D. Culler Jr. was a strong man in the ministry and a much loved teacher at Mount Morris College, Ill. He died in 1915. Brother Robert Goshorn was a leader in southern Indiana. His wife was a daughter of Elder Jacob Sommers. To them were born five sons and three daughters. Robert Goshorn was elected to the ministry Dec. 6, 1870. He was presiding Elder of the Lick Creek congregation for eighteen years. He was often chosen as a District officer and served once on the Standing Committee (1892). He died in 1903 on his way to church.

Three sons: B. F., G. V., and Ezra N. Goshorn were ministers. B. F., the oldest son, was called to the ministry Oct. 23, 1885 and ordained in 1910. He was active in the work at the home church. G. V. Goshorn was chosen for the ministry Oct. 21, 1887. He was a Mount Morris graduate. He was also a teacher in country schools and superintendent of Indian schools in the west. He traveled in every state in the Union, in Canada and Europe. His last days were full of suffering, faith, and hope.

Ezra N. Goshorn was a student, graduating from Mount Morris College, and DePauw University, receiving his A.B. and A.M. degrees. For one year he edited the Clay City paper. He taught at Mount Morris College and he was elected to the ministry in the Ladoga Church in 1900. He was a good preacher and a spiritual leader. He died April 10, 1930.

Annetta Mow was born here while her father was in school.

Brother and Sister J. C. Mitchel have spent their lifetime in this church. Brother Mitchel is now ninety-five and his wife, Barbara,



eighty-nine. They are the parents of seven children. They still attend church when it is at all possible. Dora, their devoted daughter, gives much time to the Women's Work and the teaching and the music of the church. Others of the children are in California. Two beside Dora remain in the Maple Grove church.

Brother Alfred Campbell and wife are caring for the church now. Their son, Glen Campbell, married Betty Brooks, daughter of Harlan Brooks, of India. These young people are preparing for service as missionaries to India. Another son, Henry, is a minister and just graduated from Manchester College.

Brother Farrel Culler is a minister serving also in the Maple Grove church.

During the years some families moved away. A number from the Denmark house were organized into the Brethren, or Progressive Brethren as it was then called, and only a few members remained near the Denmark church house. The work there was discontinued in 1920 and the house was sold in 1930. The name Lick Creek was dropped and the organization is officially known as Maple Grove.

The presiding elders have been: Jacob Kaub, four years; Jacob Sommers, fifteen years; David Culler, fourteen years; Robert Goshorn, eighteen years, until his death in 1903. O. D. Werking and Carl Rarick served at different times. D. C. Campbell closed his supervision at Maple Grove in 1918. Since then the following Elders have served: George L. Studebaker, 1919-1921; 1925-1926; W. L. Hatcher 1921-1924; I. B. Wike 1926-1927; Ira T. Hiatt, 1927-1931, V. B. Browning 1931-1935, J. A. Miller 1937-1949, Albert Harshbarger 1949-.

The Deacons have been: Samuel Burger, John Long, Patrick Heagy, Martin Row, Samuel Sommers, Jacob Baker, Jacob Mitchell, J. E. Miller, Noah Slife, G. B. Culler, Adam Storm, and W. H. Silvius. Those elected since 1917 are: Herman Culler, Blanche Baker, Jacob Culler and wife, Benjamin Deardorff and wife and Vincent Youngblood and wife.

Ministers elected since 1917 and some not reported in the previous history are: Charles Dumond, Aug. 4, 1926; Farrel A. Culler, Sept. 17, 1933 and ordained Sept. 17, 1939; John C. Mitchell ordained Dec. 16, 1916; Paul Hiatt licensed June 18, 1938, Glen C. Campbell, July 20, 1944, and ordained Sept. 15, 1945.

Sunday School Superintendents since 1916: Alfred Campbell 1916, Grace Mitchell 1917-1919, Herman Culler 1920-1922, Benjamin Deardorff 1930-1931, Lulu Campbell 1932-1933, 1940-1943, Vincent Youngblood 1934-1935, 1937-1938, Farrel A. Culler 1935-1936, 1946-1949, George Culler 1938-1939, Catherine Culler 1939-1940, 1944-1945. Lulu Campbell is the present Superintendent.

Maple Grove has an active Women's Group which contributed the



largest per cent of money per capita of any Southern Indiana Women's Work group in 1949. They have C.B.Y.F., children's and Intermediate department. The present membership is thirty-eight with Brother Alfred Campbell as pastor and Brother Albert Harshbarger as Elder.

Brother F. M. Hollenberg spent a few of his earliest childhood days here. Others who grew up in the Denmark vicinity and are serving in the ministry are Elder G. W. Kieffaber, Sister Goldie Killian. Also Elder D. D. Culler, Jr., was elected to the ministry at the Denmark House but soon moved away.

### MIDDLETOWN

The early history of Middletown is the same as Upper Fall Creek. In 1882 a one room building was built in town, being the second house in the Upper Fall Creek congregation.

The Middletown Church was organized on October 13, 1917 as a separate congregation. The following elders have served: Albert B. Roof 1917-1920, J. W. Lewis 1920-1922, O. D. Werking 1922-1925, Frank Dillon, 1925-1933, J. A. Miller 1933-1948, Carl Hilbert, 1948-.

Since the church in Middletown was organized it has been served in the ministry by the following local men: J. W. Lewis, A. F. Carpenter, Ora Zirkle, E. L. McCullough, Frank M. Dillon, William Dillon and W. E. Hamilton.

Those called to the ministry are: O. H. Zirkle 1919, and Estel McCullough in 1926. The church was served by the free ministry until 1946. After serving in the free ministry for thirteen years E. L. McCullough moved to Beech Grove in 1942, this left O. H. Zirkle the only minister in the congregation. He served as full time pastor from 1942 until 1948. W. E. Hamilton became the full time Pastor in 1949.

Deacons that have served the church are: David Roadcap, Benjamin Ritchie, J. A. Leckron, Ora H. Zirkle, Michael Andes, Marion Ryne, George W. Ritchie, Bryan Leckron, D. D. Blickenstaff, Arza Dillon, Harold Grady, Floyd Spearman, Asberry Gudgel and Peter Spearman.

In the thirty-three years that the church has served the community there have been over seventy-five baptisms, and a large number have been added by letter.

A basement has been added to the building which accommodates a furnace room, kitchen, Sunday School rooms, Aid room, rest rooms and a large fellowship room. The sanctuary has been re-arranged with class rooms at the front and back of the auditorium. A baptistry is located back of the pulpit. Brother M. D. Neher painted a beautiful picture of the baptism of Jesus on the wall back of the baptistry.

On August 15, 1943 the remodeled church was dedicated with Brother Harry K. Zeller as speaker. The church was dedicated free of



debt. It was at this service that the baptistry picture was unveiled. Brother Estel McCullough and O. H. Zirkle have served this church with little, and much of the time no money consideration.

The Middletown church has an active Aid society which has helped much in the advancement of the remodeling program and continues to do much good in the town and community.

W. E. Hamilton is the pastor and Carl Hilbert presiding elder. The membership is eighty.

## MUNCIE

September 28, 1897, four churches, Mississinewa (Union Grove), Killbuck (Antioch), Upper Fall Creek and Buck Creek which surrounded Muncie, met to consider the urgent request of the members living in Muncie to open a church. This request was granted and Elder George L. Studebaker and wife, Mollie, were secured to take charge. The first meeting place was 310 South High Street. Brother Studebaker was given a term of six months with the understanding that if the church responded favorably he should continue for one year. He was to receive a sum not to exceed \$200.00, with house, barn and fuel furnished. He had the privilege of conducting three series of meetings outside of Muncie. His work began October 1, 1897. Brother Studebaker was given permission to organize a Sunday School. The school began the second Sunday in June, 1898 with 47 present. All members living in Center township were privileged to vote.

The present church building and a personage adjoining the church were purchased for \$1,900. Some remodeling was done and the church was dedicated June 5, 1898 with Elder I. D. Parker preaching the sermon. There were twenty-seven charter members which are as follows: Jobe W. Hockenberry, Wm. A. Warrell, John Hahn, Silas Arnold, Fanny Arnold, Esta Arnold, John Fausett, Mary A. Fausett, W. H. Cooper, Henry Brown, Abraham Wright, Mary Wright, Charles Witter, Joseph McBride, A. D. Bowman, Carrie Bowman, George L. Studebaker, Mary E. Studebaker, Phoebe J. Yount, Nora Accord, Mary E. Dick, Emma Hockenberry, Laura Mahoney, Dora Rhoades, Lizzie Witter, Emile Warrell and Arbell McBride. At this time the adjoining churches withdrew support and the District Mission Board sponsored the church. The first council meeting was held July 14, 1898, and the first Aid Society was organized September 10, of the same year. The first communion was held Nov. 5, 1898.

Brother George L. Studebaker was Pastor and presiding Elder which office he held until he moved to North Manchester in the fall of 1906. After moving, he continued to be elder for one year. From 1916 to 1922 he again served as elder. J. W. Rarick served 1908-1909, I. E. Branson 1909-1910, A. C. Young 1910-1912, L. T. Holsinger 1912-



1914, H. L. Fadely 1914-1915, D. E. Bowman 1915-1916, F. E. Hay 1922-1925, J. W. Norris 1923-1926, J. A. Miller 1916-1918, 1926-1928, 1934-1946, R. L. Showalter 1928-1934, L. S. Shively 1946-.

G. L. Studebaker served the church as pastor 1897-1906. During these years the church grew in membership and spiritual interest. A basement was made adequate, a balcony was put in, and stained glass windows replaced the old ones.

When Brother Studebaker left, the church was served by various ministers for fifteen months. S. C. Miller served as pastor 1908-1909, L. T. Holsinger 1909-1911, Frank E. McCune 1911-1913. At this time Brother George L. Studebaker came back and was pastor until 1932. R. L. Showalter followed, then Ralph G. Rarick served two years, J. A. Miller two years, Paul W. Wingard two years, Reuben Boomer-shine three years, R. K. Showalter two and one half years, I. E. Oberholtzer two years, H. Jesse Baker six years. Brother Edward T. Angeny then became the pastor. In 1951 C. C. Sollenberger became pastor.

Different additions and repairs were made in the building in 1930, 1936 and 1945. A fire damaged the property with a loss of \$2,000.00.

The church purchased a parsonage at 319 Glenwood Ave., in 1948.

Ministers elected in the Muncie church are A. D. Bowman 1902, ordained 1906, Samuel G. Greyer 1905, J. O. Winger 1920, M. L. Brinson, Willard Shively 1930, Forest Shively 1946.

In the early history of the Sunday School, Sister George L. Studebaker was the able leader and builder. Other Superintendents were Sister Phoebe Yount, Brother Kitterman, Herman Branson, G. M. Peckinpauagh. Since 1929 the following have been Sunday School Superintendents: Este Arnold 1929, Willard Shively 1930, Mark Rarick 1931-1933, 1935, 1938, Cletus Bowers 1933, Floyd Bowman 1934, Mrs. L. S. Shively 1936-1938, 1939, 1941-1945, Mrs. E. R. Burke 1940, Robert Heeter 1945-.

The church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary October 10, 1948.

Mrs. L. S. Shively is a member of the General Cabinet of Children's Work of the Church of the Brethren, and the Director of Children's Work of the Central Region.

Reverend Edward T. Angeny and wife, missionaries to China, were interned in the Philippine Islands during World War II. Some time after their release they began their service in the pastorate of the Muncie Church. The present membership is 135.

Betty Rogers Blickenstaff became a member of this church while she was taking nurses' training in preparation for foreign mission work. She is now serving on the India field.

#### **NETTLE CREEK (Including Brick, Locust Grove, and White Branch)**

Nettle Creek is the second oldest congregation in the State. The



ministers from the Four Mile congregation began preaching in the northwest part of Wayne County. A nucleus of members was formed west of Hagerstown. An organization was effected about 1820, with Elder David Miller, who had come from Ohio, in charge.

For more than twenty years the members had no house of worship save their homes, their barns, and the groves. The meetings were distributed to accommodate all members as much as possible. It was understood that dinner would be served for all who attended, whether members or not. The Love feasts were largely attended. The members coming from long distances by wagon, when the roads were passable, on horse back at other times.

In this way public services were held up and down the Nettle Creek and West River valleys, from Cambridge City in the south, to five miles north of Hagerstown. The ministers were always expected to be at the services regardless of weather. Their humble efforts were blessed and there was a steady increase of membership, both by conversion and migration.

The church had its problems. By 1840 private distilleries became quite common. In accordance with the decision of conference in 1781, the church took up the cases of some brethren, and tried to persuade them all to abandon the business. One brother claimed he was in debt and that he would be ruined financially if he had to close his distillery. He was disowned from the church and died a poor man. Another brother preferred the church. He took up an honorable business and became a rich man.

As the country was improved and the membership increased there was a pressing need for a church building. In 1844 and 1845 a large fifty feet by ninety feet brick building was erected. This was a well built house. It was centrally located, and became a church home for all of the members. Nettle Creek house was built shortly after the Four Mile house and thus became the next to the oldest Church of the Brethren in Indiana.

In 1859 it was decided to build some chapels about equally distant from the central house. White Branch was built in 1858, four and one half miles northwest, Locust Grove was built three miles southwest in 1859, and Olive Branch was bought from the Methodists. Services were held at the chapels on the first and third Sundays, while at the central house there was a united service on the second and fourth Sundays. The church had an interest in another house called Maple Grove where services were held on fifth Sundays.

In 1874 the first church building was razed and a new brick house 52x90 was built thirty rods north of the old site, the ground where the old church stood is now a beautifully kept cemetery. Many of the



first members of Nettle Creek lie beneath the spot where they once worshiped.

The first ministers were David Miller and Aaron Miller, who moved to Northern Indiana in the thirties. They were followed by Benjamin Bowman and David Hardman. Zachariah Albaugh and John Hollar were German preachers. Then followed Daniel Bowman, John Bowman, Jacob Bowman, David Bowman, Lewis Kinsey, William Robey, William Lindley, Daniel Smith, Jacob Hoover, B. F. Wissler, Lewis Teeter, Samuel Eiler, Abraham Bowman, Levi P. Dilling, John A. Miller, D. E. Bowman, Clessie Miller, Perry Hoover, Oscar Werking, and A. D. Bowman. Since 1917 the following ministers have been ordained; Oscar D. Werking 1918, Martin M. Hoover and Clessie Miller, 1919, Carl Hilbert, 1921, Floyd Breneman and Lloyd Hilbert, 1948, and Howard Breneman, 1949.

Clemmie Miller was elected in 1918 and later became a Methodist. Presiding elders are: David Miller, 1820-1833, Benjamin Bowman, 1833-1850, David Hardman, 1850-1864, Daniel Bowman, 1864-1885. L. W. Teeter was presiding elder from 1885 until August 11, 1923, when O. D. Werking was chosen. Brother Werking has served continually and is now the presiding elder. All the ministers in Nettle Creek served in the free ministry until Nov., 1939. Bro. Oscar Werking then became pastor at the Brick Church. Carl Hilbert serves at White Branch and Clessie Miller in the Locust Grove territory.

In the Church history closing 1917 Bro. Teeter reported sixty-four deacons. They are: Aaron Miller, John Bowman, John Ulrich, Benjamin Hardman, John Hardman, Jacob Caylor, Samuel Eiler Sr., David Hartman, Abraham Zook, Zacariah Albaugh, Daniel Bowman, John Hart, Daniel Ulrich, Abraham Replogle Sr., George Countryman, Christian Holler, Abraham Myers, Daniel Welty, Daniel Zook, Jacob Bowman, John Werking, John Crull, John Hollar, David Lontz, Edward Raffe, Aaron Richardson, Abraham Garver, Frederick Dilling, Henry Shultz, Abraham Bowman, Lewis W. Teeter, Joseph Holler, B. F. Koons, Abraham Hollar, Ithamar Bowman, Jacob Replogle, Benjamin F. Crull, Levi S. Dilling, Henry Moore, M. W. Robertson, Jacob Deardorff, Martin Werking, Daniel Bowman, Amos Ellenberger, Isaiah Brennaman, Charles Bowman, Jonathan Hoover, Abraham Replogle Jr., Franklin Bowers, Harrison Johnsonbaugh, Daniel Brennaman, Samuel Shock, Frank Dillon, Charles W. Miller, Clinton Stonecipher, David Shellenbarger, William Bowman, Arthur Hoover, Lewis Himes, Lawrence Sherry and John Herr. Since 1917 there have been four elections of deacons. Charles Wampler, Frank Wampler, Seba R. Lanerd, and Estel McCullough were elected in 1919. Harlan Ammerman, Charles Hoover, Eber Holler and Mahlon Rinehart were chosen in 1931. Wilson Lindsay, Paul Weimer, Edward Ulrich, Howard Brennaman,



and Ivan Dilling were selected in 1935. Wayne L. Goar, William T. Stout, Elmer Bowman, Elmer Wampole and D. L. Miller were elected in 1946. Eleven of this last number are active. Frank Wampler became a member of another church, Estel McCullough became a minister and serves Beech Grove, Eber Holler is deceased and Wilson Lindsay and Paul Weimer have moved away.

A Sunday School was begun in 1868 and by 1873 there were three organized Sunday Schools; work at the Maple Grove chapel having been discontinued. The work at Olive Branch was discontinued in 1922.

The Nettle Creek Church observed its one hundredth anniversary in 1920. In 1928 the church began a remodeling program which was completed in 1940 free of debt. Brother J. O. Winger conducted the rededicatory service.

The Sisters' Aid Society was organized in 1902 and has grown into a group of organized Women's Work. Men's Work was organized in 1947.

Betty Rogers Blickenstaff is supported by this church on the India Mission field. Lynn Rogers Blickenstaff, a son of Dr. and Mrs. Leonard Blickenstaff, is supported by White Branch. White Branch has an active Aid Society, having been organized since 1914.

The combined membership of the three congregations is four hundred and fifteen.

### NEW HOPE

When Elders D. L. Miller, L. W. Teeter, H. C. Early, J. J. Yoder, Charles D. Bonsack, and Galen B. Royer were serving on the General Mission Board of the Church of the Brethren, they gave consent to Brethren Jacob and Sherman Rider to do mission work. It was the desire of the Rider brothers to be led by the Holy Spirit, and to carry out the command of Jesus to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. They went to Jackson County and held a revival in the number one school house near Uniontown Indiana. The people were devout and responded to the preaching and the New Hope church was organized February 3, 1891.

Brethren J. J. Spall and W. L. Ross gave timber and stone for the structure and foundation of the church building and donated much of the labor along with other people of the community.

Some of the pioneer ministers who worked with the Rider brothers were L. W. Teeter, N. E. Baker, D. F. Hoover, Davis R. Richards, H. L. Fadely, A. C. Young, Jacob Rarick, Jacob Secrist and Isaac Branson. The first election of deacons was in 1890, they were: Luther Bedel, J. J. Spall, W. L. Ross, W. P. Carpenter, W. Collins and C. Bedel. About 1900 J. J. Spall, W. L. Ross and Luther Bedel were elected to



the ministry. Brother Bedel moved away leaving Brethren Spall and Ross as local ministers.

A Sunday School was organized and a prayer meeting established and the church grew spiritually.

Near 1908 the Mission Board sent W. L. Ross to work with the Sampson Hill church in Martin County, he served there for ten years and was ordained to the Eldership.

By 1916 the church was under the supervision of the District Mission Board who at that time were E. O. Norris, John Herr, Jeremiah Barnhart, J. A. Miller, and John W. Root. In 1949 the church was released from the District supervision, being able to maintain a pastor and the work of an ongoing church.

Deacons chosen later were: W. H. Ross, Ashbury Gudgel, Amos Spall, J. C. Bedel and Carey Carpenter. Brother Carpenter was chosen for the ministry in 1925, he moved to Jeffersonville, Ind., but still serves in the New Hope Church.

Women's Work was organized in 1917 and has done much good work for the church.

A few years ago a tornado damaged the church house beyond repair. Difficult times followed but the light of faith still burned. The men organized and by faithful labor and co-operation the work continued. In 1948 an additional plot was purchased back of the old church. A chapel was purchased from the United States Government. It was taken down and moved to the church ground where it was rebuilt back of the old building. It was dedicated September 12, 1948, Brother Estel McCullough preaching the dedicatory sermon. The old church of precious memory was removed.

Elders who have served the church are: L. W. Teeter, N. E. Baker, A. C. Young, D. Miller, E. O. Norris, D. W. Bowman, O. D. Werking, Jeremiah Barnhart, J. A. Miller, and Estel McCullough.

Ministers who have served as Pastors are: Arthur Hoppes, John Greenhaugh, John Smeltzer, Noah Shidler, J. W. Root, Moses Smeltzer, E. O. Norris, Jeremiah Barnhart, Carnie C. Carpenter, J. W. Garrott, Estel McCullough, Joseph Campbell, J. S. Alldredge and Floyd Brenaman.

The deacons are: Granville Murphy, Thornton Borden, and Hobart Murphy. Brother Estel McCullough is presiding elder and Brother Kenneth Fisher is Pastor. The present membership is ninety eight.

### **PYRMONT (North Fork)**

In 1828 David Ulery and family emigrated by wagon from Montgomery Country, Ohio, and settled along the North Fork of the Wild Cat Creek, in Carroll and Tippecanoe Counties. There were sixteen persons, of whom eleven were members of the church; David Ulery and



wife, son, Samuel Ulery and wife, son-in-law, John Shively and wife, David and Leonard Ulery, Christian Replogle and wife, and Joseph Replogle.

The father, David Ulery, was a deacon. A church was partly organized in 1829 and Samuel Ulery was chosen deacon. There seems to have been some little association of this band with those who were settling along Deer Creek in the north part of Carroll County. In 1830 Jacob Brower and a Brother Garber came from Ohio and did some preaching. At this time Samuel Ulery and John Shively were called to the ministry. In 1831 the first communion was held in a barn just erected by David Ulery. The framework of this barn is still standing on the farm which until recently was owned by John Root.

In 1832 the congregation was fully organized. There were sixteen members. In addition to the ones already mentioned, there were John Wagoner and wife, John Cripe and wife, Samuel Wagoner, Esther Wagoner and Joel Fouts. Leonard Ulery had died in 1830. "Meetings were held every two weeks at the cabins or barns of members and in pleasant weather they worshipped in the groves—God's first temples."

In 1833 the church lost by death one of its ministers, Samuel Ulery. The next year there came from Ohio John Metzger and wife, who settled in the southern part of the district near the Middle Fork of Wild Cat Creek. The Brethren at once recognized his fitness for service. He was elected deacon 1834 and called to the ministry in 1835. He at once magnified his holy calling and soon became a power as a preacher in these early days. In 1843 he and John Shively were ordained to the eldership.

In 1845 the church had grown to such an extent that it was considered best to effect a division. Elder John Shively took charge of the north organization, then called the North Fork, now Pymont, while Elder John Metzger had the oversight of the southern part, then known as Middle Fork, now Rossville. From now on their histories diverge, though in recent years the two churches are served by the same pastor.

The pioneer family was already passing away. Susan Ulery, wife of David Ulery died in 1845 and her husband followed in 1849.

Leonard Blickenstaff and Eli Troxel were elected to the ministry in 1847 and 1851, respectively. Jacob Wagoner and Aaron Ulery were elected deacons. "In 1852 Jacob Wagoner donated a plot from his farm at the village of Pymont, on which was erected the first church of worship. It was 40x60 and was built of heavy timbers such as walnut, poplar and oak, in which the forests so richly abounded. The building committee was Daniel Wagoner, Jacob Wagoner, and Christian Shively; Henry Burkholder and William Freeze were carpenters. No dedication services were held, but a communion opened the forty eight years of service of this "noble structure."



1856, Jacob Ulery was elected to the ministry; Isaac Ulery and Jacob Cripe were elected deacons, and Daniel Wagoner died. Daniel Metzger and Daniel Cripe were elected deacons in 1857; Jacob Wagoner and Jacob Cripe were called to the ministry. The latter died in 1858. 1859 Daniel Cripe was elected minister; 1860, Samuel W. Ulery and John Felix, deacons.

During the years that followed a number of members moved to Illinois. Some of them later moved back. In 1865 Isaac Cripe moved in from the Howard church. Two years later he and Jacob Wagoner were ordained to the eldership. In 1872 the church territory was again divided, the part in Tippecanoe County being called Fairview. Of this new division John Shively became elder, assisted by Samuel Ulery, a minister. Isaac Cripe and Jacob Wagoner retained charge of North Fork. The privilege was given to the members of the original congregation to hold their letters in which ever congregation they chose.

A Sunday School was organized and conducted for a while in 1866. In 1881 the Old Order element took from this church about ninety members, including Joseph Wagoner, minister, Abraham Wagoner and Daniel Metzger, deacons. In 1888 the Sunday School was reorganized, with John Reiff as superintendent. Soon after this regular quarterly council meetings were held and reports kept of proceedings. For the accommodations of those living in the east part of the district a church 30x40 was erected. The house is still standing, though the work was abandoned years ago.

Since 1873 the church has called the following brethren to the ministry: John Ulery and Joseph Wagoner, 1873, David A. Hufford, 1877 (moved to North Dakota, 1897), D. L. Barnhart and Grant F. Wagoner, 1907, Willard H. Hufford and Fred Replogle, 1915 (Willard H. Hufford died in 1927 and Fred Replogle moved in 1924), Glenn Wagoner was elected to the ministry in 1927; installed, 1928, and died in 1931, Frank Replogle, a minister, and wife, moved into the congregation in 1920 and moved out in 1931. From time to time ministers moved into the congregation: George W. Strong came from Pennsylvania, 1877, Leonard D. Wagoner from Middle Fork, 1877 and died the next year, L. T. Holsinger and E. M. Cobb came in 1899, also Merton Holsinger, son of L. T. and a minister. Brother L. T. Holsinger moved to Rossville in 1907 and E. M. Cobb to Elgin, Illinois, 1908, Merton Holsinger moved in 1907, Brother Jeremiah Barnhart came from Fairview in 1909. S. S. Neher moved in, in 1921 and moved out in 1922, Isaac R. Beery came in 1923 and moved out in 1925.

When brethren L. T. Holsinger and E. M. Cobb came in 1899, the church at once thought of a new house of worship. The old house was torn down March 12, 1900, and the same day work was begun on the new one. Much of the hauling was done by the members. The new house



was dedicated November 18, 1900, D. L. Miller of Mount Morris, Illinois, preaching the dedicatory sermon. Brother H. B. Brumbaugh of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania, and a number of adjoining ministers were present. Brother Miller gave a series of Bible Land talks. These closed with a love feast, which was also the beginning of a series of meetings held by Elder Isaac Frantz.

This church house, built and dedicated in 1900, burned to the ground December 27, 1925. Services were held in the nearby school house until the church was rebuilt. In less than a year a new church was erected on the old foundation. Brother Otho Winger preached the dedicatory sermon November 14, 1926, which was followed by a series of meetings led by Brother Isaac B. Wike.

In 1932, the church celebrated its one hundred years of service. At that time the membership was one hundred and fifty. The church had had a Sunday School and Aid Society for many years. The Men's Work was organized in 1940. Since that time the men have operated a farm for half. The fellowship of tilling, sowing, and reaping has contributed much to the financial and spiritual growth of the church.

A Missionary Society called The Fellowship Circle for all women and girls of the church was organized in 1950. The church was remodeled in 1950, adding a modern kitchen and rest rooms.

Pymont is the birthplace of two India missionaries. A. Raymond Cottrell was born March 21, 1884, and has served as a medical missionary since 1913. He with his physician wife, have ministered, not only in physical healing, but in spiritual health to multitudes of India's needy folk. Rosa B. Wagoner was born February 5, 1885 and married John I. Kaylor in August, 1911. Together they went to India in October, 1911. Rosa died at Bulsar, October 24, 1917 and was buried there in the English cemetery. She was the first missionary wife to die on the India field. She was a loyal worker and a noble Christian. Raymond Cottrell is a grandson and Rosa Wagoner Kaylor was a great-granddaughter of Jacob Wagoner who donated the land where the church now stands.

The Pymont Church has elected twenty-four deacons, twenty-two moved in, twenty-one have moved out, thirteen died while serving the local church and seven were elected to the ministry. Six deacons are now living in the church. Deacons who have served here are the following: Stephen Metzger, Daniel Wagoner, David Ulery, Samuel Ulery, John

**White Branch**

**Pymont**

**Rossville**

**Union Grove**

**New Hope**

**Richmond**

**Sampson Hill**

**Upper Fall Creek**







Metzger, Jacob Wagoner, Aaron Ulery, Isaac Ulery, Jacob Cripe, David Wagoner, Daniel Metzger, Daniel Cripe, Samuel W. Ulery, John Felix, Abraham Wagoner, Daniel C. Wagoner, Samuel W. Wagoner, David Reiff, Samuel Gible, Andrew Metzger, Thomas C. Welch, Noah Ulery, Eli M. Cottrell, David D. Blickenstaff, Andrew Wagoner, John L. Wagoner, Daniel Wagoner, Solomon Ulery, Allen Wagoner, David L. Barnhart, Zimri Sensenbaugh, William Steward, Benjamin Metzger, Bernard Jacot, Jerome Shigley, George W. Wagoner, Hershel Metzger, Elmer Swartz and John W. Vetter. The deacons who are now serving are: Michael A. Barnhart elected 1916, Floyd Smeltzer elected 1924, Frank Barnhart elected 1924. John Boyd moved in 1925, J. Thomas Laprad moved in 1928, and John Wagoner moved in 1942.

Presiding elders serving from 1843 to the present have been and are: John Shively 1843-1872, Isaac Cripe 1872-1893, D. C. Campbell 1895-1899, L. T. Holsinger 1899-1905, A. G. Crosswhite 1905-1907, J. G. Stinebaugh 1907-1910, Jeremiah Barnhart 1910-1913, 1914-1918, 1921-1922, 1924-1928, 1935-1936, David Dilling 1913-1914, D. L. Barnhart 1918-1920, 1930-1935. Adjoining elders 1920-1921, W. L. Hatcher 1922-1924, Frank Replogle 1928-1930, 1934-1937, Walter Replogle 1937-1938, R. L. Sink 1938-1946, G. L. Wine 1946-.

In 1921 it was decided to employ a pastor. There have been five pastors. They are: S. S. Neher Oct. 1921-1922, I. R. Beery 1923-1925, Milton Early during the summer of 1938, Robert L. Sink 1939-1946, G. L. Wine became pastor 1946 and is the present pastor.

After the death of Lulu Root, daughter of Solomon Ulery, Elder John Root offered the church the Solomon Ulery farm of 134 acres at a reduction of ten thousand dollars, his gift to the church. They accepted the farm Dec. 1, 1950.

Brother David Barnhart as has been shown served the church as Elder. He lived here for forty-two years. He was a devoted man of God, with him was his brother Jerry Barnhart, these two men have been of much service to the church not only locally but have been men of influence in the District serving on many boards and much loved by those who work near them. Brother Jerry is a faithful servant of God who lends inspiration to the Pastor and all the congregation. The membership is one hundred and seventy-two.

The early history was made available by Brother John W. Vetter of Ohio who lived in the local church for more than forty years.

### **RICHMOND**

Members of the Church of the Brethren living in Richmond, Indiana felt for a long time the need of a church in Richmond. This desire increased until the fall of 1925 when a meeting was called at the home of Brother and Sister William Hieger on Linden Avenue.



A general discussion was held on the subject. Among those present were Andrew Miller, Albert Zumbrum, Roy Colters, Susie Petry, Elmer Petry, Luther Petry, Bro. and Sister Hieger, Sister Isaiah Petry, and others.

As a result of this meeting, church services were held in various homes for a period of two or three months. Bro. Luther Petry doing most of the preaching. At this time a room was secured in the Colonial Building and services were held there for about three months. Sunday School was organized at that place. The first teachers were Samuel Wise, Edwin Hieger, and Sarah Petry. Some of the ministers helping out in these services were John Robinson, Luther Petry, Martin Hoover, and others. Bro. Martin Hoover held a short revival meeting at that time. Early in the spring of 1926 this courageous group of members were without a minister, but they kept up the faith in Sunday School and the meetings were not allowed to drag. Mark Schaeffer acted as superintendent for the first school.

About this time the old school building at West Fifth and School Streets was rented for services. The first service in this building was held on April 24, 1926. This was a business meeting. At this time, Bro. Chester Petry was engaged to hold a revival meeting in May. The next day, April 25, 1926, the first full service was held. Both Church and Sunday School got under way. Ministers who officiated about this time were Lawrence White, Ira Hiatt, Bro. Browning, and Andrew Miller. The average attendance at these services was around forty for the first year.

About the middle of June, 1926, Sister Pearl Jackson, from Losantville, Indiana, began to fill the pulpit in a regular manner. She took care of the preaching services in a highly commendable manner for fully a year. She gave up the work because of other duties that called her away.

The members were again faced by an empty pulpit, but not for long. The Mission Board of Southern Indiana lent their help and summer pastor, Wilbur O. Snyder from Tyrone, Pa., took charge of the work until fall when duty called him back to his school teaching. From this time on, Martin Hoover preached for several months. During this time a meeting was held to officially organize the church.

On October 19, 1927, letters were received from the different members. Twenty-nine charter members were received that night. Trustees were elected. The balance of the organization was taken up on November 9, 1927. Two more members were accepted. Much enthusiasm was shown at this meeting.

Those faithful charter members were as follows: Edwin Hieger, Mary Jane Hieger, William Hieger, Lora Hieger, Lottie Kreitzer, Ohmer Kreitzer, Melvin Miller, Olive Miller, Kenneth Moss, William Moss, Mrs. William Moss, Albert Murphy, Frederick Murphy, Lawr-



ence Murphy, Vivian Murphy, Herman Newland, Isaiah Petry, Sarah Petry, Willis Petry, Mary Rinehart, Ray Rinehart, Carmel Siders, Raymond Siders, Goldie Wise, Mabel Wise, Samuel Wise, Garland Werking, Vera Werking, Ruby Early, Fred Goodwin, and Mary Goodwin. A tribute is here paid to those who so faithfully served early in the Richmond Church but were not in the community to join as charter members.

The subject of a church building was brought up at this meeting. A building fund was started by a free-will offering. The sum of \$12.25 was raised. This was a start toward a new church building.

With the leaving of Bro. Wm. Deaton, late in 1928, the services lapsed for a time.

Bro. O. D. Werking of the Hagerstown Brick Church was our first elder and it was through his kindness and sincere help of the Mission Board that the smoldering coals were again blown into a flame. Bro. N. E. Baker was secured as the first resident pastor Richmond ever had. A home was rented for him at 1141 Ridge Street, and on Sundays the two front rooms were prepared with chairs for services. The work prospered under his leadership and through his efforts a forceful building program was laid out.

By the middle of October, 1930, ground was broken for the new building. The location was secured by canvassing the entire community to ascertain how badly the surrounding community needed a church. The Mission Board purchased the ground. The building committee consisted of Isaiah Petry, Albert Murphy, and Orville McKee. Bro. N. E. Baker served as treasurer of this committee. Bro. Baker left in April, 1931, but the church went on with the project. They raised the money in small amounts. A definite program was worked out toward the completion of the new building.

This new enthusiasm was much encouraged by the help of Bro. William Deaton who returned to the scene when things were not so bright. Through his help and guidance the members were urged to their utmost with that ever-promising picture before their eyes—Dedication Day.

The members turned out evening after evening, when the money ran out, and worked at the church even though they had put in one day's work at their various positions in the city. A year and one month after the breaking of ground, the building was finished—November 11, 1931.

An all-day meeting was held for the Dedication Service. Eld. Otho Winger gave the address to an overflow crowd. Many of those who had a part in this new church long ago were present.

At the March Council an advisory board was organized to handle the affairs of the church. Those elected were Orville Funderburg, John



Olt, and Ray Rinehart. The church then began to talk about Communion.

On July 5, 1932, Bro. Walter J. Heisey was selected as pastor. He served faithfully until the fall of 1934. During that time communion tables were purchased and all dishes and necessary equipment were acquired.

In January of 1935, Bro. E. O. Norris came as pastor. At this writing, he is still serving in full capacity as our pastor. With fifteen years of hard work and splendid service under his leadership, the membership has grown.

In the early part of 1945, the home Bro. Norris was renting was sold. A nice home was purchased as a parsonage. Once again the members turned out night and day and prepared the home for occupancy.

Bro. Orville McKee and Bro. Ezra Deaton and their wives are serving as deacons, having been the first deacons in the church. In October 1937, Bro. and Sister John Olt were installed as deacons. They are still serving. In March of 1945, Bro. and Sister Garland Werking and Bro. and Sister Ray Rinehart were called as deacons.

The steadfastness of Bro. and Sister Norris, the efforts of evangelists, and the faith of the members have contributed all to the growth of the Richmond Church. The church is now looking forward and planning for the day when we will not need help from the Mission Board, who have stood by us partially all these years.

Following are names of pastors: Luther Petry, William Deaton, John Robinson, Martin Hoover, Lawrence White, Ira Hiatt, U. B. Browning, Andrew Miller, Pearl Jackson, Wilbur O. Snyder, N. E. Baker, Walter J. Heisey, E. O. Norris.

Elders who served: Martin Hoover, William Deaton, N. E. Baker, Walter J. Heisey, E. O. Norris, Carl Hilbert.

Sunday School Superintendents: Mark Schaeffer, Melvin Miller, Orville McKee, Ray Rinehart, Carl Petry, Orville Funderburg, Ralph McKee, Harold Petry, Isaiah Petry, William Heiger, Isaiah Petry, Eli Jackson, Garland Werking.

The membership is one hundred and twenty-one. E. O. Norris, pastor, and Carl Hilbert, elder.

### **ROSSVILLE (Middlefork)**

This congregation was a part of the North Fork congregation, the beginning of which may be read under the heading of that church. Most of the first settlers located in the northern part of the District.

In 1834 John Metzger and wife came from Montgomery County, Ohio, and settled in the southern part of the District. Others followed. In 1834 he was elected deacon, in 1835 called to the ministry, and in 1843 ordained to the eldership. During these years he had been faith-



fully preaching the Gospel and many in those pioneer districts had accepted Christ. In 1845 the Wild Cat territory was divided, that to the south taking the name Middlefork (of Wild Cat Creek). Elder John Metzger was given charge of this church and remained its faithful bishop for twenty years.

Material is scarce for exact information. At an early period in the church, Daniel Neher, a native of Rockingham County, Virginia, was called to the ministry, March 27, 1846. He was ordained in 1858. He moved to Illinois in 1871. He had three sons who were ministers: Joseph D., elected at Middlefork, and died here; Andrew Neher, elected in Kansas; John F. Neher, elected here and died in Oklahoma. David Frantz was one of the pioneer preachers who moved to Illinois. Stephen Metzger and John W. Metzger (cousin and son, respectively, of Elder John Metzger) were called to the ministry. The former went with the Old Order Brethren. The latter was for years an elder of this church and then moved to California. John Shively was elected here. He and Harrison Rule, who moved in, both went Old Order in 1881. Solomon Blickenstaff was elected here but moved to Bachelor Run in 1898 where he died a few years later.

Isaac Billheimer, who had come from Tennessee and lived for some years in the Fairview church, came here in 1892. An able preacher and a fine Christian man, he was presiding elder for some years, and came to be of great influence in the State District. He died here in 1906. Sanford Saylor was another minister who moved in and died here. Michael Flory was elected here about 1885 and moved to Southern Illinois in 1889. James Hazlett and Amos Neher were called to the ministry in 1890. The latter moved to California in 1898 where he still resides. The former served the church many years in the free ministry. He was ordained Elder in December 1921. He moved to North Manchester in 1904 where he attended Manchester College. In 1912 he returned to this church where he remained until a few years before his death (1948) which occurred at the home of his daughter in Arizona. Frank G. Replogle was elected minister September 30, 1906, and ordained to the Eldership, 1923, in Pymont Church. Being a teacher, he left the District in 1913 to attend Manchester College. He returned to this church in 1931 and, with the exception of one year in the Cincinnati, Ohio, church, has been here since. He is a teacher in the West Lafayette Senior High School.

Charles C. Hylton, minister moved in from the Manchester church in 1918, was ordained as elder in December, 1921.

Ralph Wagoner was licensed to the ministry in 1946 and ordained to the full ministry July 10, 1949.

The presiding elders of this church have been in order: John Metzger (1843-1864), Daniel Neher, Allen Mohler, John W. Metzger, Isaac



Billheimer, Solomon Blickenstaff (ordained 1889), David Dilling (1899-1906), John D. Mishler (1906-1908), David Metzler (1908-1910), John H. Wright (1910), Paul Mohler (1915-1916), Jeremiah Barnhart (1914-1915), W. L. Hatcher (1917-1922), Charles C. Hylton (1922-1923, 1929-1930, 1932-1937), J. G. Stinebaugh (1923-1929), Frank G. Replogle (1937-1940, 1945-1946), Robert L. Sink (1940-1945), G. L. Wine (1947-).

Since January 1906 the church has been cared for by pastors who were for the most part on full time support. They are: John D. Mishler (1906-1908), David Metzler (1907-1909), John H. Wright (1910-1912), Paul Mohler (1915-1916), W. L. Hatcher (1917-1921), Noah Shideler (1921-1923), J. G. Stinebaugh (1923-1930), I. R. Beery (1930-1932), Walter Replogle (1934-1938), Robert L. Sink (1939-1946), G. L. Wine came as pastor in 1946 and is in his sixth year of the present pastorate.

Since 1939 the Rossville pastor also serves the Pymont Church as pastor.

The following have served the church in the office of deacon: Samuel Hufford, Isaac Metzger, Jacob Shively, Martin Neher, John Metzger (father of John E. who was agent for the Brethren Publishing House for many years), Harrison Gochenour, David Skiles, Samuel Mohler, Philip Crull, D. D. Hufford, A. C. Metzger, John E. Metzger (1890), William Metzger (1890), Allen Metzger (1906), Amos Cripe (1907), Edward Kendal, Daniel Spurgeon, Dennis Hufford (1907), Jerry Holsinger (1912), Jesse Hufford (1912), J. W. Vetter, John Skiles (1917), Harry Gochenour (1917), Floyd Gochenour, Roscoe Shedron, Herschel Metzger, Russell Cripe, Ferris Hylton (1946), Marvin Wagoner (1946), Fred Laprad (1946).

The congregation has built four meetinghouses. The first one was located five miles southwest of Rossville. It was the main Middlefork house. The original house was replaced by a new one in 1886. Locally it was known as Pleasant View. The second house was called New Hope, built about 1865, located four miles southeast of Rossville. It also has been abandoned. The third one was built in Edna Mills, four miles west of Rossville in 1873. This house was closed about 1902. In 1906 a large house was erected in Rossville. D. D. Hufford was the architect and contractor. This house was dedicated in December 1906, Elder Galen B. Royer, Elgin, Illinois, delivering the sermon. Immediately following, a series of meetings was conducted by William Lampin, Polo, Illinois. There were thirty-five added to the church. For some years services were continued at the Pleasant View house on alternate Sundays. In 1915 this house was closed and the Rossville house has been the only place of worship since then. The name of the congregation was changed a few years ago from Middlefork to Rossville.



The name Metzger has been a common one since organization. This is the home church of Minerva Metzger who served 30 years on the China Mission field (1910-1940). Because of the war with Japan she was compelled to leave the field. She died here in December 1941 a few days before the Pearl Harbor incident.

The present membership is two hundred and eighty-nine.

### **SAMPSON HILL**

In 1852 Brother Leonard Stevens and his wife, Anna, moved to Martin County from Kansas. They bought a farm southwest of Shoals, but there was no church of the Brethren near so they became missionaries. They made friends of the neighbors and gave a faithful testimony using any opportunity to tell of the hope, doctrine and practice of the Brethren. They distributed literature and some people became interested. The Southern Indiana Mission Board did much visiting and work here.

Services were held in homes, barns and groves. The first members were Henry and Susan Quakenbus Tronter, who were baptized by Brother George Studebaker. The first communion was held in the large barn on the Stevens farm. Brother Jerome Hensler, a deacon who was much interested, gave the ground for a church building. Other members donated materials, time, and work. Brother Elias Horner and son, William, hewed rock by hand for the foundation of the church. Brethren Jerome Hensler, Joseph Harner, B. S. Johnson, Henry William, and Ollie Tranter, and others whose names were not recorded did the carpenter work. The church was built because they "had a mind to work."

The church house was dedicated in 1897. Elder D. A. Norcross who moved to California, was called to the ministry at Sampson Hill. Elder Jonathan Greenhalgh was born in Manchester, England. After coming to America he united with the church in 1897, was called to the ministry in the Upper Fall Creek Church, and preached at Sampson Hill.

Other Brethren who met with the church to encourage and preach were George L. Studebaker, Lewis Kinsey, Elias Caylor, David Caylor, W. L. Ross, Denton Horner, Herman C. Branson, Glenn Rummel, E. O. Norris, and J. A. Miller, and James Hunter.

The membership is listed at fifty-nine.

### **UNION GROVE**

About 1838 several families of Brethren located in Delaware County, Indiana. This same year, Elder Isaac Karns, John Darst and John Cumrine paid the members a visit and encouraged them to hold



social and religious meetings. This they did without a preacher or deacon for over two years.

In the spring of 1841 John Younce, a minister from Miami County, Ohio, moved in and the church was organized. In 1842 George W. Studebaker was called to the ministry; in 1843, David and John S. Studebaker were called to the same office; and in 1847 John was chosen. George W., after serving the church forty years moved to Fredonia, Kansas, in 1882. John S. moved to Cass County, Indiana, in 1846, and was a pioneer in starting the Upper Deer Creek church. David moved to Miami County, Ohio, in 1855 and died in 1863. John U., last elected, served this church for over fifty years and passed to his reward August 15, 1901.

Some of the early deacons were as follows: David Rench and Jacob Kunkle, 1843, Alex. Snider, 1852, John Berg, 1854, John Snyder and Jacob Gump, 1855.

During these years the church prospered. The Studebakers labored faithfully at home and showed remarkable missionary zeal and energy elsewhere. They traveled on horseback through what is now Middle and Northern Indiana. Many churches owe their origin to these faithful ambassadors for Christ. It is no wonder that their home church built up with such leaders. A house was erected in 1857, just west of Eaton, along the Mississinewa River.

As time went on other helpers joined them in the work: 1862, Samuel Studebaker, deacon from Illinois; 1865, Gabriel Karns, a minister from Ohio; 1865 Isaiah Howard, deacon from Ohio, called to the ministry in 1867; 1868, Scott Richardson, minister, elected; 1869, John Rarick, deacon from Ohio; 1869, Christian Davis, minister, elected; March 12, 1871, W. R. Deeter elected minister, advanced 1873, ordained 1875, moved to Kosciusko County 1881; Samuel Younce, elected minister 1878, ordained 1882, moved to Clarion, Michigan, 1900.

In 1882 the church had a membership of 200. The division of the church affected this church but little. The loss of George W. Studebaker and W. R. Deeter who moved to other fields weakened for a time the ministerial force. Others were soon called to take up the work: George L. Studebaker, elected June 11, 1881; Jacob Rarick elected in fall of 1881; C. F. Eiler moved in 1888 from Prairie Creek; A. C. Young moved in from Ohio, 1893. In 1900 C. F. Eiler moved to Walnut Level, while A. C. Young was ordained. In 1895, J. W. Miller, a deacon who moved in from Somerset church, was chosen; he was later ordained and died here in 1912. His brother J. A. Miller, a minister in the second degree, moved in from Landessville and was ordained November 25, 1911. He had charge of the church from 1913-1920. V. B. Browning was elected to the ministry and ordained in 1915. A. P. Wenger was ordained September 15, 1946. Fred Goudy was elected March 19, 1922.



Paul S. Studebaker, June 1, 1918, ordained October, 1923, Hickory Grove, Northern Illinois, near Mt. Carroll. Merrell L. Brinson May 28, 1925, and Harold Rarick December 21, 1928.

Presiding elders since 1920 are: D. W. Bowman 1920-1921, J. A. Miller 1921-1922, J. W. Rarick 1922-1923, Carl Rarick 1924-1926, I. B. Wike 1926-1928, J. W. Norris 1928-1929, J. G. Stinebaugh 1929-1931, I. E. Weaver 1931-1944, V. B. Browning 1944-1949, and L. S. Shively, 1950-.

Deacons elected in 1882 and up to the present time are: Calvin F. Moomaw, James Pierson, L. J. Hooke, G. F. Rarick, Jacob L. Minnich, John Shoemaker, Eli Snyder, Grant Leckington, Ira Shoemaker, Howard Moomaw, Samuel McKinley, Samuel DeWeise; May 1925, O. H. Snider and Elton Brinson were elected. Dwight Cox and Harry Fisher 1932, Earl Snider 1934, James Suzodder, Mark Rench, James Pruett, and Jesse Palmer were chosen in 1941, Willard Tapy, and Harold Wallar in 1946.

In 1885 the Union Grove house was built, three miles southwest of the old house. In 1933 the name Mississinewa was changed to Union Grove.

A Sunday school was organized in 1886 with Alexander Studebaker as Superintendent.

East of Muncie some six or eight miles there was a church known as Bush Creek. It was organized largely through the missionary efforts of Elder George W. Studebaker. It was organized sometime before 1868, but had ceased to exist as a separate organization before 1882.

The church building was remodeled and a rededication service was held June 23, 1946. The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1935.

The church has purchased a farm near the church house where the pastor lives.

The pastors who have served Union Grove are: Leo H. Miller 1918-1920, I. E. Weaver 1928-?, Russel K. Showalter ?-1939, I. C. Snavelly 1939-1943, A. P. Wenger 1943-1949, Ernest Detrick 1949-.

The membership is one hundred and seventy-one.

### UPPER FALL

The Upper Fall Creek Church was formerly a part of Nettle Creek, and the first preaching was done by the ministers of the mother congregation, during the thirties and early forties, these ministers with missionary zeal, preached in the Buck Creek and Upper Fall Creek territory near Middletown. The church was organized in 1845 with twenty-five members. Among the early Brethren families were those of the following: John P. Miller, Jacob P. Miller, Andrew Fatic, Peter Kessling, Jacob Good, Jacob Brunk, George Hoover, Isaac Van Matre and David Crist.



George Hoover was the first minister of the congregation and rendered faithful service for nearly fifty years. Other men called to the ministry here are: Andrew Fatic, David Crist, Isaac Van Matre, Martin Roadcap, John Holsinger, John J. Hoover, David K. Teeter, David F. Hoover, Joseph F. Spitzer, David W. Gustin, Henry L. Fadley, George W. Painter, Lewis L. Teeter, Joseph L. Hoover and William Pannell. Frank Dillon was ordained Sept. 18, 1924, and was granted a letter in 1928. Paul Hoover was ordained Sept. 1918, and died Feb. 1, 1920. William P. Dillon was ordained Sept. 13, 1923, and was granted a letter Dec. 11, 1927, and died May 20, 1937. John Stottler and John B. Alexander were licensed to the ministry.

Until 1917 the church had had but three presiding Elders, namely: George Hoover, David F. Hoover, and Henry Fadely. Brother D. E. Hoover died while Elder, July 11, 1919. A. B. Roof was Elder 1916-1918. Brother L. L. Teeter was elected August 2, 1919, and served twenty-five years until called home Aug. 2, 1934. Brother L. L. Paul was elder 1934-1935, when Brother C. H. Hoover was chosen and served for thirteen years. Brother Carl Hilbert was elected June 25, 1948 and is the present elder.

Brethren D. T. Hoover, H. L. Fadely, Paul S. Hoover, Frank and Wm. P. Dillon, served in the free ministry until 1928. From that time until 1946 the ministers were paid by the sermon. These Brethren were A. B. Roof, C. H. Hoover, L. L. Teeter, Carnine Carpenter, Marion Norris, D. W. Bowman, Estel McCullough, and Ora Zirkle. October, 1946, Brother Claudius Pyles was chosen as pastor.

The Old People's Home which was begun in 1884, furnished a number of temporary members and ministers.

The deacons elected before 1917 were: John P. Miller, Jacob P. Miller, Andrew Fatic, Peter Kessling, Jacob Brunk, John Brunk, John Good, John J. Hoover, Jacob W. Frost, Isaac Roadcap, Joseph A. Bowers, John M. Miller, William Ritchie, David F. Miller, Benjamin Ritchie, Abraham Miller, Ora Zirkle, Michael Andes, and Frank Martin. Others were Henry Roadcap, Jeremiah Ritchie, and Marion Ryne. John M. Miller was elected Sept. 22, 1922, and died 1929. Charles Chandler was elected Sept. 13, 1923. Robert Replogle was elected June 24, 1939 and was given a letter in 1940.

September 26, 1946, the following three deacons were elected: Earl Clem, Lloyd Boicourt, and John B. Alexander. Fred Spall was chosen Feb. 2, 1947.

The names of the Sunday School Superintendents follow: Frank Martin 1916-1917, Mrs. D. F. Hoover 1917-1919, D. F. Miller, 1919-1923, William P. Dillon 1923-1924, 1926-1927, John B. Alexander, nine years 1924-26, 1927-31, 1943-46, Rachel Alexander 1931-1932,



Claude Chandler 1932-1937, 1941-1943, 1946-1948, Robert Replogle 1937-1941, Everette Hoover 1948.

The Sisters Aid Society was organized March 25, 1925. Men's Work was organized December 1946.

The Centennial was celebrated November 11, 1945. After the church organization was one hundred years old an extensive remodeling program was begun which resulted in a convenient semi-modern basement, with complete redecorating of the inside of the church and paint on the outside. The remodeling was done by the Men's Work with the Women's Work assisting in a financial way. It is noteworthy and interesting that the men furnished labor and the women money.

The membership is eighty-five.

On July 9, 1950, there was held a ground breaking ceremony for the new parsonage to be built on the church ground.

### WHITE CHURCH

The earliest preaching in the northern part of Montgomery County was done by Elder John Metzger, about 1852. He had been invited to come to Montgomery County by Sister Mary Slingly, who had moved from Ross County, Ohio. Brethren Daniel Neher, John Shively, George E. Cripe and Hiel Hamilton visited this part of the country in their preaching tours. Some of the first to be baptized were: Martin Bowers Sr., Edman Bowers, 1855, Eve Lowery, Martin Campbell and Esther Dunbar in 1858, Jesse Anderson, Ann McCartney and Martin Bowers Jr., in 1861, and William Young.

The church was organized in August, 1858. Martin Campbell, a charter member and the first white child born in Sugar Creek township, was the father of D. C. Campbell. The first deacon elected was William Young who died in 1912 at the age of 84. Abner Bowers and Martin Bowers Sr., were elected to the ministry in 1859. Four years later the church called to the ministry L. M. Dunbar and A. J. Bowers. William Briant, a minister from Ohio, moved in.

The membership of this church was built up largely from people who had belonged to other denominations in the community. The first church building was a frame house which after twenty years burned to the ground. The same year 1893 the present brick house was erected. It is a good building beside a tarvia highway, surrounded by beautiful fertile farmland.

Brother D. C. Campbell was chosen for the ministry in September, 1881. He spent four years in Kansas, from 1884 to 1888, but returned to his old home. June 4, 1890, he and L. M. Dunbar were ordained to the eldership. About the same time E. P. Dunbar and Ira Fisher were called to the ministry. In 1895 and 1896 P. H. Beery and D. D. Culler, two young ministers, spent one year each within the





**White**



**Windfall**

boundaries of this congregation at Clarks Hill where they were in the public schools. In 1912 Forrest Groff, a teacher, was chosen for the ministry. In 1914 Carl Rarick, of Elgin, was called to this church as Pastor and he, with E. P. Dunbar were ordained in 1915. John R. Rettinger, a grandson of Elder R. H. Miller Sr., was chosen for the ministry, 1922. Brother V. B. Browning moved to the White church in 1930. He being a minister was a great help to the church. He left in 1934 moving to the Union Grove church where he now lives.

During the early days of the White church it was presided over in turn by Elders John Metzger, R. H. Miller, Isaac Billheimer, Martin Bowers, and Abner Bowers. Brother D. C. Campbell was elder from 1890 until 1903. A. J. Bowers 1903-1905, L. T. Holsinger 1905-1908, A. G. Crosswhite 1908-1909, L. M. Dunbar 1909-1911, D. C. Campbell 1911-1923, Ira E. Long 1923-1925, E. N. Goshorn 1925-1926, Frank Replogle 1926-1927, David Barnhart 1928-1930, V. B. Browning 1930-1934, Forrest Groff 1934-1935, B. F. Summers 1935-1936, Forrest Groff 1937-1939, Ellis Wagoner 1939-1945, Albert Harshbarger 1945-.

The pastors serving White Church are: Carl Rarick 1914, Ira E. Long 1925-1927, John R. Rettinger 1927-1933, B. F. Summers 1933. After Brother Summers left the church was closed for the year of 1938. Dorotha Bradway, Jane Norris and Miss Davis, who were working in interdenominational work, came and held a revival; the interest was such that the church was reopened and Brother Ellis Wagoner became pastor in 1939 and served until 1945. George Hagenbuch served in 1946-1947. At that time Ernest R. Jehnsen served White church and Ladoga until 1948, Wayne Miller became part time pastor while attending Purdue in 1949.



The Deacons serving White Church have been: Martin Campbell, William Young, Frank Johnson, William Conrad, Allie Peterson, Samuel Price, Levi Fisher, Adam Loveless, Robert Bowers, Earnest Buoholtz, Guss Legg, Joseph Dunbar, Roy Coyner, John R. Rettinger, James Campbell, and D. D. Blickenstaff, and Walter Miller. The last two moved in and have moved away. Brother Adam Loveless remains in the bounds of the church.

A Sunday School was organized in 1892, with Ira Fisher as Superintendent, other superintendents have been E. P. Dunbar, Adam Loveless, Harry Dunbar and John Rogers.

H. C. Early held a very successful meeting at White Church in 1912 and C. S. Garber held one in 1913 which added about sixty members to the church.

The fiftieth anniversary was celebrated in 1943 with Brother Ellis Wagoner preaching the sermon.

An active Aid Society was organized about 1902 or 1903.

Services were discontinued in the spring of 1949. However, early in 1951 services were resumed with prospects of renewed life in the church.

## WINDFALL

The Windfall congregation was organized out of the southern part of the Greentown territory in May, 1896, with about thirty charter members.

The first ministers were T. J. Stout, Thomas Rogers, and F. M. Bogue. Since then the church has called to the ministry, Chester Poff 1910, J. W. Lewis and Elmer Phipps 1911, Alva Hewitt 1914, A. F. Carpenter 1915, Denzil Copeland March 1927, Thomas Davis 1940. Brother Hewitt was ordained in 1922, Brethren Thomas Davis and Elmer Phipps in 1949.

The Deacons were: Marion Ryan, Jesse Rogers and John Copp. Later John Browning, and Thomas Stout were elected. Roy Ritchey and Thomas Davis were elected to the deacon's office December, 1933. Brother Davis was later chosen for the ministry. Milton Oxley was elected deacon March, 1938, Ernest Bogue and Wilbur Collins were elected deacons August 31, 1941. Roy Johnson and Reuben Stout were elected March 30, 1947. The Elders who have had charge of the church are: Elder Daniel Bock 1896-1902, Abraham Caylor 1902-1904, Eli Smeltzer 1904-1909, Nathan Cripe 1909-1916, Leslie Ockerman 1916-1925, J. A. Miller 1925-1930, 1939-1942, D. W. Bowman 1942-1945, Alva Hewitt 1920-1939, 1945-.

The church house was built in 1897. In 1946 the house was remodeled by the members of the church who donated all the work. A



basement was dug and a heating system installed. The church has always been served by the free ministry.

Brother J. F. Spitzer made Windfall his home church and contributed much by his preaching. He was born in Virginia but came to Indiana in his youth and was elected to the ministry in the Upper Fall Creek church. Brother Otho Winger was brought to Christ when Brother Spitzer preached and was baptized by him February 21, 1888. Brother Spitzer was called the "Walking Bible" because he knew, and could recite many chapters from memory. He died in 1922 while holding a meeting in Muncie, Ind.

Denzil Copeland was the first recorded Sunday School Superintendent followed by Ernest Bogue 1943-1944, Erwin Davis 1942-1946, 1951-.

The church has an active Women's Work, a weekly prayer meeting, with prayer and social meetings each Sunday night.

The communion is attended by between seventy-five and eighty communicants.

Each New Year a Watch Night service is held, and each Easter there is a well attended Sunrise service.

Brother Thomas Davis is the Youth Adviser and Teacher.

The membership is one hundred.

Brethren Alva Hewitt, Thomas Davis, Denzil Copeland and Elmer Phipps are the ministering Brethren.







## CHAPTER IV

### DISTRICTS—DATA AND ACTIVITIES

For fifty years there was no recognized division of Indiana into Districts. Churches worked individually and together with the adjoining churches. Occasionally there would be held a conference, including the officials of a few congregations. Brother J. G. Francis says that there was a meeting of this kind held in Northern Indiana as early as 1857. In 1859 another such meeting was held in Elkhart County on a love-feast occasion. Twenty-five ministers and elders were present, including some from Ohio, among them Elder Henry Kurtz.

Gradually there grew up a natural division of the State, because of geographical convenience, into a northern and a southern part. In 1863 two meetings were held, much resembling our modern District Meetings. We include the minutes of these meetings as far as we have them. They will give us some idea of the problems of the local churches at this early date.

#### **District Meeting in Northern Indiana**

Held Near Goshen, April 6, 1863

Query 1. About the difference between the ancient order of holding love feasts and the 43rd query of last Annual Meeting. Considered to abide by our established order till farther light is given, and for this purpose the matter is referred to next yearly meeting for reconsideration and bringing about a union in this and other matters of difference.

Query 2. About the avoidance. That brethren should engage seriously in examining the matter in order to come to a union in practice as soon as possible.

Query 3. About the kiss between the supper and the breaking of the bread. Agreed to continue in this practice as before.

Query 4. About attending political and war meetings and voting at political elections. Considered not to have anything to do with politics at all, much less with war affairs.

Query 5. About a lamb to be used at the Lord's supper. United in leaving it as heretofore decided at the yearly meetings.

Query 6. How shall we deal with members who will not come under the order of the Brethren with regard to dress, especially ministers wearing fashionable coats and sisters wearing hoops? United in the conclusion of yearly meeting of 1861.



**District Meeting of Southern Indiana**

Held Near Flora, Indiana, May 1, 1863

Query 1. A soldier comes under conviction while in camp, requests of the brethren to be baptized, and if not permitted to come home, requests the brethren to come to the camp and baptize him, promising that he will leave the service as soon as he can honorably do so. What will the brethren in this meeting advise the brethren to do in this case? Answer: It is considered advisable that such applicant should be received into the church.

2. Is it consistent with the Gospel and our holy profession to observe those days set apart by the rulers of our land to engage in fasting and prayer? Answer: It is consistent to do so.

3. Is it right according to the Gospel for brethren to attend and participate in speaking at political meetings held by the people of the world in the present age? Answer: It is not right.

4. Should not the laboring brethren at communion meetings speak upon and give the best reasons they can for breaking the bread to the sisters different from the brethren? Answer: They should.

5. Is it consistent with the Gospel for brethren having a difference with individuals of the world, for them, when they have erred, to go and make confession and humble themselves the same as if they were members of the church? Answer: It is consistent so to do.

6. Is it consistent with the Gospel and the order of the Old Brethren to sing such pleasing tunes at our communion meetings as are sometimes sung by the brethren, singing the different parts to the music? Answer: It is if we sing with the spirit and the understanding also.

7. If a brother sells another brother a piece of land and takes a mortgage as security, and if he fails to pay any part of the principal, but pays only the interest and has it four or five years, would it be contrary to the brethren and the Gospel to foreclose the mortgage? Answer: We advise the brethren under such circumstances to get the counsel of the church in which they reside.

8. It is ordered by this meeting that hereafter no query shall be received at a District Council Meeting without the approbation of the church from whence it comes, signed by some of the leading brethren of the church, provided, however, whenever a member feels himself aggrieved with the decision of the church to which he belongs, and after his request to do so, the church refuses to present the matter to the council meeting, he may apply to the District Council Meeting for a committee to do the same.

9. David Hardman and John Shively are by this meeting approved delegates, and Daniel Bowman and Daniel Neher contingent delegates, to represent this District at Annual Meeting this year.



10. Resolved by this meeting that we hold our next District Council Meeting, the Lord willing, on the first Thursday after Easter in the year 1864. Place of meeting will be announced in due time. Signed by order of the committee: David Hardman, John Whiteneck, John Shively, Daniel Neher, Samuel Murray, Hiel Hamilton, David Bowman, clerk.

### **Division into Districts**

The Brethren in Indiana, in accordance with a recommendation from Conference, sent representatives to a State Conference, which met in the Antioch congregation at Andrews, Indiana, October 25, 1866. The officers of this meeting were George Hoover, moderator; Jacob Miller, foreman; Hiel Hamilton, clerk; and Daniel Miller, assistant.

The work of suggesting a division of churches was assigned to a committee composed of William Lindley, of Hagerstown, J. U. Studebaker, of Mississinewa, Christian Wenger, of South Bend, Samuel Murray, of Salimony, Jacob Metzger, of Eel River, and Jacob Berkey, of Rock Run. The report of their work was as follows:

### **Southern Indiana**

Four Mile, Nettle Creek, Buck Creek, Bush Creek, Mississinewa, Killbuck, Fall Creek, Arcadia, Jonesboro, Greentown, Howard County, North Fork of Wild Cat (Pyrmont), Middle Fork (Rossville), Potato Creek (White), Ladoga, Owen County (Lick Creek), Somerset, Columbus (Lower Fall).

### **Middle Indiana**

White County (Monticello), Mexico, Squirrel Creek (Roann), Manchester, Clear Creek, Blue River, Beaver Dam, Eight Mile (Markle), Salimony, Antioch (Andrews), Eel River, Santa Fe, Pipe Creek, Upper Deer Creek, Lower Deer Creek, Wabash, Prairie Creek, Bachelor Run.

### **Northern Indiana**

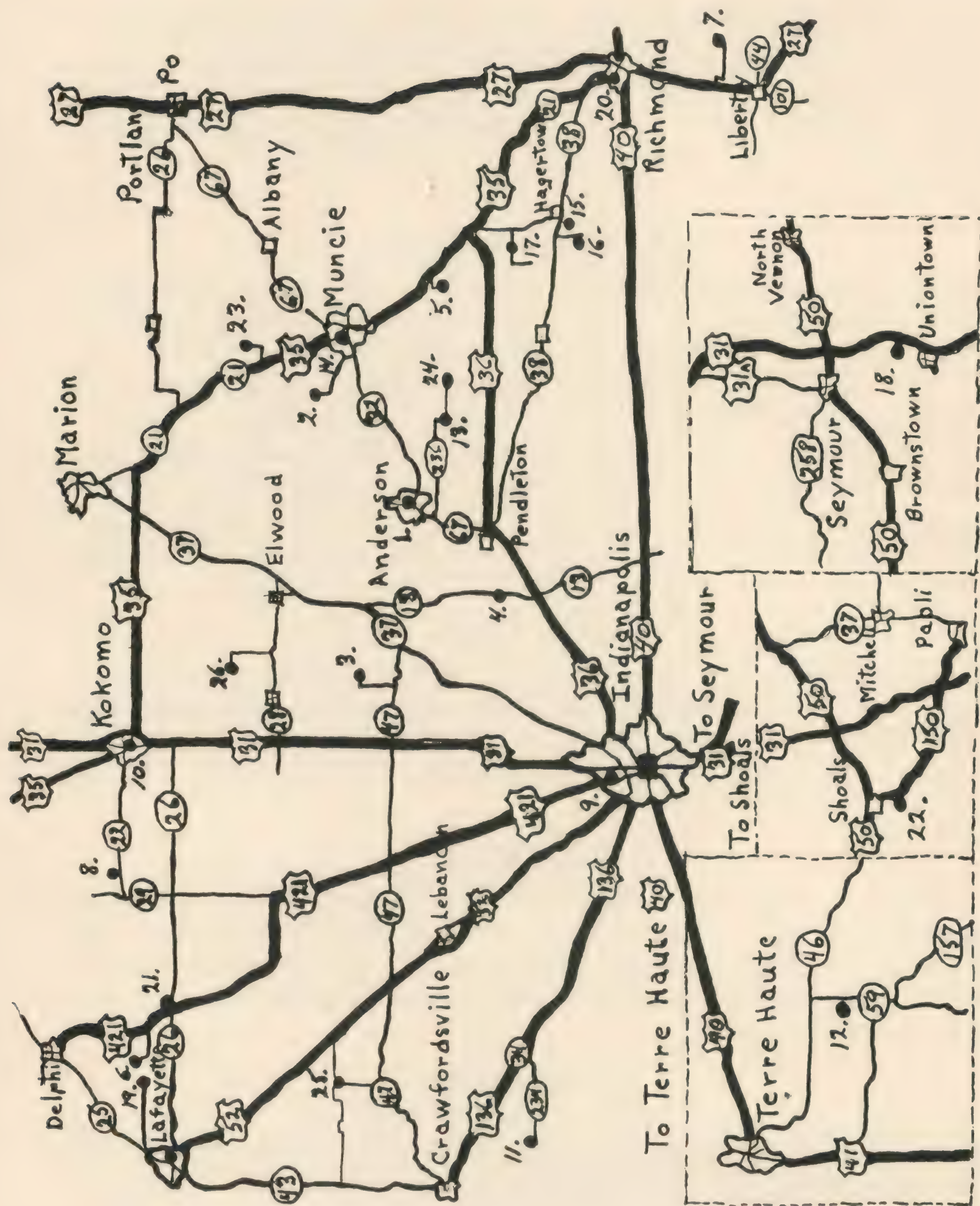
Portage, Baugo, South Bend, Bremen, Pine Creek, Union, Yellow Creek, Elkhart, Turkey Creek, Union Center, Solomon's Creek, Rock Run, Springfield, Shipshewana, Washington, Cedar Creek, Tippecanoe, Pigeon River, Fawn River (English Prairie).

## **SOUTHERN INDIANA**

### **First Churches**

The division of the State into Districts in 1868 gave to Southern Indiana eighteen congregations as follows: Four Mile, Nettle Creek, Buck Creek, Bush Creek, Mississinewa, Killbuck, Fall Creek, Arcadia, Jonesboro (Summitville), Greentown, Howard County, North Fork





- 1 Anderson
- 2 Antioch
- 3 Arcadia
- 4 Beech Grove
- 5 Buck Creek
- 6 Fairview
- 7 Four Mile
- 8 Howard
- 9 Indianapolis
- 10 Kokomo
- 11 Ladoga
- 12 Maple Grove
- 13 Middletown
- 14 Muncie
- 15 Nettle Creek
- 16 Locust Grove
- 17 White Branch
- 18 New Hope
- 19 Pyrmont
- 20 Richmond
- 21 Rossville
- 22 Sampson Hill
- 23 Union Grove
- 24 Upper Fall Creek
- 25 White
- 26 Windfall

## Southern Indiana



of Wild Cat (Pyrmont), Middle Fork of Wild Cat (Rossville), Potato Creek (White), Ladoga, Owen County (Lick Creek), Somerset, Columbus (Lower Fall). One of these, Somerset, soon became identified with Middle Indiana. The territory given to the Southern District was a large one, comprising nearly two-thirds of the State. But to have moved the line further south would have taken from it some of its strongest churches. One of the big problems of the District has been its large territory and scattered membership.

### **Work of the District, 1866 to 1881**

During the first fifteen years following the division no printed records of the District Meetings were kept. But little information can now be secured as to what was done in these years. There were but little of Sunday-school and organized missionary activities to occupy the attention of the District Conference. There was a great deal of missionary work done, but largely through the individual initiative of energetic ministers. The churches seem to have grown steadily through these years under the faithful preaching of such men as George Hoover, George W. Studebaker, Elias Kaylor, Jacob Rife, Lewis Kinsey, I. J. Howard, Hiram Branson, Robert Goshorn, Daniel Bowman, Wm. R. Harshbarger, David Bowman and others. R. H. Miller and Hiel Hamilton were perhaps the most prominent men in the district and generally represented the district on the Standing Committee. Since 1881 the leaders of the District can somewhat be determined by the table of District Meetings.

### **OFFICERS FOR DISTRICT MEETING**

In selecting the officers of the District Meeting, Southern Indiana followed the old form of the Annual Conference. The officers of the church wherein the meeting was held would select a number of elders who were to act as a Standing Committee. These would retire and select the officers of the meeting and as far as possible get the work in shape for the meeting. In 1894 a paper passed to allow the delegates representing the congregations of the District to choose the officials. The brethren select their officials by majority vote, open count. Since 1897 their credential committee has been made up of the officers of the previous meeting.



# District Meetings of Southern Indiana, 1881-1916

Year	Place Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	On Standing Committee
1881—	Lower Fall	Hiel Hamilton	Jacob Rife	Geo. W. Cripe	Jacob Rife
1882—	Arcadia	Hiel Hamilton	J. W. Metzger	L. W. Teeter	Jacob Rife
1883—	Upper Fall	Hiel Hamilton	Jacob Rife	L. W. Teeter	Hiel Hamilton
1884—	Mississinewa	Jacob Rife	J. W. Metzger	L. W. Teeter	J. W. Metzger
1885—	Raccoon	Isaac Billheimer	John H. Caylor	L. W. Teeter	Isaac Billheimer
1886—	North Fork	Jacob Rife	Robert Goshorn	L. W. Teeter	L. W. Teeter
1887—	Lick Creek	Wm. Harshbarger	Daniel Bock	L. W. Teeter	Wm. Harshbarger
1889—	Four Mile	John H. Caylor	J. W. Metzger	L. W. Teeter	L. W. Teeter
1890—	Mississinewa	Jacob Rife	D. F. Hoover	L. W. Teeter	L. T. Holsinger
1891—	Upper Fall	Robert Goshorn	Daniel Bock	L. W. Teeter	Jacob Rife
1892—	Howard	Jacob Rife	D. F. Hoover	L. W. Teeter	Robert Goshorn
1893—	Nettle Creek	Wm. Harshbarger	Robert Goshorn	D. F. Hoover	L. W. Teeter
1894—	Middlefork	L. W. Teeter	A. S. Culp	L. T. Holsinger	Wm. Harshbarger
1895—	Lower Fall	L. W. Teeter	L. T. Holsinger	G. L. Studebaker	D. F. Hoover
1896—	Arcadia	Wm. Harshbarger	G. L. Studebaker	D. F. Hoover	G. L. Studebaker
1897—	Mississinewa	L. W. Teeter	Levi Winklebleck	G. L. Studebaker	D. F. Hoover
1898—	White	L. W. Teeter	G. L. Studebaker	J. W. Rarick	J. W. Rarick
1899—	Buck Creek	D. C. Campbell	D. F. Hoover	J. W. Rarick	D. C. Campbell
1900—	Greentown	L. W. Teeter	D. F. Hoover	E. M. Cobb	L. W. Teeter
1901—	Upper Fall	L. W. Teeter	Levi Winklebleck	G. L. Studebaker	D. F. Hoover
1901—	Howard	L. T. Holsinger	D. F. Hoover	G. L. Studebaker	L. T. Holsinger
1902—	Nettle Creek	L. W. Teeter	J. W. Rarick	Levi Winklebleck	D. F. Hoover
1903—	White	L. W. Teeter	J. W. Rarick	L. T. Holsinger	L. W. Teeter
1904—	Mississinewa	L. W. Teeter	D. F. Hoover	G. L. Studebaker	D. F. Hoover
1905—	Ladoga	L. T. Holsinger	D. F. Hoover	G. L. Studebaker	L. W. Teeter
1906—	Four Mile	L. W. Teeter	Levi Winklebleck	J. W. Rarick	L. T. Holsinger
1907—	Pymont	J. W. Rarick	D. F. Hoover	L. T. Holsinger	L. W. Teeter
1908—	Nettle Creek	L. W. Teeter	L. T. Holsinger	H. H. Keim	J. W. Rarick
1909—	Rossville	L. W. Teeter	D. F. Hoover	E. N. Goshorn	L. W. Teeter
1910—	Buckcreek	J. W. Rarick	Isaac Branson	D. F. Hoover	D. F. Hoover
1911—	Ladoga	L. T. Holsinger	J. W. Rarick	D. F. Hoover	L. T. Holsinger
1912—	Mississinewa	L. W. Teeter	E. O. Norris	W. L. Hatcher	L. W. Teeter
1913—	Pymont	E. O. Norris	W. L. Hatcher	J. A. Miller	E. O. Norris
1914—	Four Mile	L. W. Teeter	Paul Mohler	E. N. Goshorn	W. L. Hatcher
1915—	White	Paul Mohler	D. W. Bowman	Frank Hay	L. W. Teeter
1916—	Nettle Creek	E. O. Norris	D. W. Bowman	Carl Rarick	E. O. Norris



# District Meetings of Southern Indiana, 1917-1952

Year	Place Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	Standing Committee (year of service)
1917	Ladoga	J. A. Miller	G. L. Studebaker	W. Carl Rarick	E. O. Norris
1918	Buck Creek	E. O. Norris	D. W. Bowman	O. D. Werking	J. A. Miller
1919	Rossville	E. O. Norris	D. E. Bowman	J. A. Miller	D. W. Bowman
1920	Mississinewa	D. W. Bowman	J. W. Root	G. F. Wagoner	E. O. Norris
1921	Arcadia	J. A. Miller	J. W. Root	Russel Showalter	D. W. Bowman
1922	Anderson	W. L. Hatcher	O. D. Werking	A. P. Musselman	E. O. Norris
1923	Pymont	D. W. Bowman	W. Carl Rarick	A. P. Musselman	D. W. Bowman
1924	Nettle Creek	D. W. Bowman	Ira Long	V. B. Browning	J. A. Miller
1925	Arcadia	O. D. Werking	J. G. Stinebaugh	I. B. Wike	H. C. Early
1926	Buck Creek	D. W. Bowman	V. B. Browning	R. L. Showalter	O. D. Werking
1927	Rossville	O. D. Werking	C. H. Hoover	R. L. Showalter	V. B. Browning
1928	Mississinewa	J. G. Stinebaugh	E. N. Goshorn	R. L. Showalter	O. D. Werking
1929	Pymont	O. D. Werking	E. N. Goshorn	R. L. Showalter	J. G. Stinebaugh
1930	Four Mile	D. W. Bowman	I. R. Beery	R. L. Showalter	R. L. Showalter
1931	Nettle Creek	I. R. Beery	E. R. Fisher	Frank E. Hay	O. D. Werking
1932	White Church	E. R. Fisher	W. J. Heisey	Frank E. Hay	E. R. Fisher
1933	Mississinewa	R. L. Showalter	Reuben Boomershine	V. B. Browning	W. J. Heisey
1934	Rossville	D. W. Bowman	I. E. Weaver	E. R. Fisher	D. W. Bowman
1935	Buck Creek	W. J. Heisey	V. B. Browning	Perry Hoover	E. R. Fisher
1936	Anderson	O. D. Werking	J. A. Miller	Perry Hoover	D. W. Bowman
1937	Nettle Creek	E. O. Norris	Russel K. Showalter	R. L. Showalter	W. J. Heisey (O. Werking served)
1938	Pymont	R. L. Showalter	Clinton I. Weber	F. G. Replogle	E. O. Norris
1939	Upper Fall Creek	R. L. Showalter	L. S. Shively	F. G. Replogle	O. D. Werking
1940	Union Grove	J. A. Miller	C. H. Hoover	F. G. Replogle	J. A. Miller
1941	Rossville	A. P. Musselman	R. L. Sink	F. G. Replogle	R. L. Showalter
1942	Anderson	R. L. Sink	John Peters	I. E. Oberholtzer	R. L. Sink
1943	Buck Creek	D. W. Bowman	J. H. Baker	O. H. Zirkle	J. A. Miller
1944	Nettle Creek	E. O. Norris	E. L. McCullough	O. H. Zirkle	O. D. Werking
1945	Pymont	Lewis Deardorff	James R. Hunter	Carl Hilbert	R. L. Sink
1946	Union Grove	A. P. Musselman	Roy Richey	Carl Hilbert	O. D. Werking
1947	Rossville	O. D. Werking	Robert Byerly	Carl Hilbert	Robert Byerly
1948	Anderson	E. L. McCullough	A. E. Harshbarger	Paul Kendall	A. E. Harshbarger, J. A. Miller
1949	Beech Grove	G. L. Wine	Carl Hilbert	Paul Kendall	E. L. McCullough, G. L. Wine
1950	Arcadia	Carl Hilbert	Edward Angeny	Paul Kendall	Carl Hilbert, E. L. McCullough
1951	Nettle Creek	A. E. Harshbarger	L. S. Shively	William Tinkle	A. E. Harshbarger, Eldon Petry
1952	Four Mile	Eldon Petry	L. S. Shively	William Tinkle	Eldon Petry, G. L. Wine



### **The Churches in 1881**

In 1881 the District was composed of the following churches, with the number of members of each church: Buck Creek, 90; Beech Grove, 75; Bethel (Ladoga), 130; Cicero (Arcadia), 100; Fair View, 130; Four Mile, 150; Greentown, 75; Howard, 164; Killbuck, 41; Lower Fall, 70; Lick Creek, 80; Middle Fork, 217; Mississinewa, 200; Nettle Creek, 407; Pyrmont, 161; Potato Creek, 35; Retreat, Jackson County, 32; Summit, 54; Stony Creek, 50; Sampson Hill, 21; Upper Fall, 110.

### **Mission Work**

Considering the large field and scattered membership, one should expect that the cause of missions would attract a great deal of attention. Southern Indiana early had men of great missionary zeal. John Metzger, George Hoover, George W. Studebaker, Hiel Hamilton and others, "went everywhere preaching the Gospel." Much of the early work in Middle and Northern Indiana was begun by these pioneers.

In 1881 a committee, consisting of Hiel Hamilton, Jacob Rife and Geo. W. Cripe, recommended the following plan for doing definite work in the District: "We, your committee, recommend that the three following named brethren, John Caylor, Hiel Hamilton and Lewis Kinsey, be appointed to constitute a Board of Missions, whose duty it shall be to appoint a treasurer to receive all funds donated by the congregations for the purpose of defraying the expenses of the missionaries. The board shall set the time and designate the place or places where the work is to be done, and make such calls on the churches as they may deem necessary to secure means to carry on the mission to the best of their ability. We further recommend that the board appoint four brethren as missionaries, whose duties it shall be to preach at such times and places as the board may designate, the missionaries to serve for one year; and we further decide that the board shall have power to fill all vacancies."

This report was passed and the following named brethren were chosen and accepted as the first brethren appointed by the District: Hiram Branson, John W. Metzger, Lewis W. Teeter and Daniel Bock.

The following year, for some reasons, the Mission Board was suspended, but missionaries were appointed by the conference and paid direct by the District Treasurer. There were already mission points in Harrison, Jackson, Martin and other counties. From year to year the District elected men to look after these places. Some of the missionaries of these places, besides the above named, were Lewis Kinsey, William Harshbarger, John H. Caylor, Jacob Rife, L. T. Holsinger, Daniel Bock and Isaac Cripe.

In 1885 the Nettle Creek church asked the District Meeting "to cause to be inaugurated a special fund for the purpose of erecting, or assisting in the erection of, churchhouses within the territory, formu-



lating a plan in harmony with Article 5 of the General Church Erection and Missionary Committee adopted in 1883." Lewis Kinsey, Daniel Bock and D. F. Hoover prepared a plan and certain regulations. These were accepted and Samuel Mohler, of Middle Fork, David Peffly, of Ladoga, and David Richards, of Sugar Creek, were appointed a committee to be known as the Church Extension Committee of Southern Indiana. This was the beginning of the Mission Board which has continued to the present time. Its membership has been as follows: Samuel Mohler, 1885 to 1902; David Peffly, 1885 to 1898; David Richards, 1885 to 1890; Lewis Hooke, 1890 to 1901; William Hicks, 1899 to 1902; John F. Shoemaker, 1901 to 1916; E. M. Cobb, 1902 to 1903; J. S. Alldredge, 1904 to 1908; D. E. Bowman, 1911 to 1914; E. P. Dunbar, 1912 to 1913; J. W. Root, 1913; John Herr, 1914. In 1916 the board was enlarged and the following brethren became the committee: E. O. Norris, Jeremiah Barnhart, J. A. Miller, John Root and John Herr.

During these thirty years the board has been doing what it could with the means at hand to carry the Gospel to needy fields. At the mission points already mentioned the work was continued, churches were established in Harrison County, Sampson Hill in Martin County, New Hope in Jackson County, Fountain in Ripley County, Redwood near Williamsport. This work was largely placed in the hands of District elders, two being selected each year, one for the southern and one for the western part of the field. Some of the faithful shepherds of the work were W. R. Harshbarger, J. W. Rarick, G. L. Studebaker, Isaac Branson, D. F. Hoover, A. C. Young and Peter Houk.

The board has also helped to establish churches in the cities of Muncie, Anderson, Kokomo and Indianapolis. While some of the work seemed either to fail, or to accomplish but little, yet when one contemplates that through the preaching done under the direction of the board more than 600 have been brought into the kingdom, many members have been fed with spiritual food, and much faithful witnessing for Christ done by the church, the results abundantly pay for the efforts put forth.

### **Ministerial Meetings**

Annual Ministerial Meetings have been held since 1891. That year the following brethren were named as a program committee to arrange a suitable program for the coming year: L. T. Holsinger, L. W. Teeter, Daniel Bock, D. F. Hoover and D. C. Campbell. These meetings have been helpful in giving inspiration to those who must carry on the great work of the District.



### **Sunday Schools**

Sunday schools have been held in the District about as early as anywhere in the West. L. W. Teeter and others were pioneers in the work. Brother Teeter was secretary of the first Sunday-school organized at Nettle Creek in 1868, and was one of the pioneer editors of our Sunday-school literature. Annual Sunday-school meetings have been held since 1901. The first program committee for these meetings were E. M. Cobb, A. C. Young and Sister Zeruih Hill. In 1909 the District meeting appointed as District Sunday-school and Christian Workers' Secretary, Sister Emma Miller, of the Nettle Creek congregation. For nine years she ably performed her duties, going from school to school, giving encouragement and helpful suggestions. Her report of 1916 shows that there were in the District thirty-six Sunday-schools with 2,525 students enrolled and an average attendance of 1,692.

From 1917-1951 the following Brethren have carried much of the load of the work of the church in Southern Indiana:

L. W. Teeter, L. L. Teeter, D. L. Barnhart, Jeremiah Barnhart, J. S. Alldredge, O. D. Werking, John W. Root, Levi Wise, D. W. Bowman, R. L. Showalter, L. S. Shively, J. Andrew Miller, Estel McCullough, Wilbur Barnhart, Albert Harshbarger, Carl Hilbert and Mahlon Rinehart.

The present (1951) administration board consists of the following members:

Albert Harshbarger, Chairman; L. S. Shively, Sec.; Mahlon Rinehart, Treas.; E. K. Norris; Estel McCullough; Wilbur S. Barnhart; Carl Hilbert; G. L. Wine; Mrs. Letha Burnett and Eldon M. Petry.

There are 25 congregations and 3,539 members.

### **SOUTHERN INDIANA ELDERS AND MINISTERS**

(E) Elders, (M) Ministers, (L) Licentiates

- (E) Angeny, Edward, moved to Dayton, Ohio
- (E) Barnhart, Jeremiah, Delphi, R. 4, Ind.
- (E) Bowman, A. D., Hagerstown, Ind.
- (E) Bowman, D. E., R. 2, Hagerstown, Ind.
- (E) Bowman, D. W., 908 Washington Blvd., Anderson, Ind.
- (M) Breneman, Howard, R. 1, Mooreland, Ind.
- (M) Breneman, Floyd, Box 6, New Lisbon, Ind.
- (M) Brinson, M. L., R. 9, Frankfort, Ky.
- (E) Browning, V. B., R. 3, Muncie.
- (L) Buckley, Raymond, R. 2, Richmond, Ind.
- (E) Byerly, Robert, moved to Elizabethtown, Pa.



- (E) Campbell, Alfred, Centerpoint, Ind.
- (M) Carpenter, Carnie, 207 Randolph Ave., Jeffersonville, Ind.
- (E) Coblentz, P. E., R. 1, Bunker Hill, Ind.
- (M) Copeland, Denzil, R. 1, Sharpsville, Ind.
- (E) Culler, Farrel, Clay City, Ind.
- (E) Davis, Thomas, Windfall, Ind.
- (M) Detrick, Ernest, R. 1, Muncie, Ind.
- (E) Dodge, Arthur, Arcadia, Ind.
- (M) Dunbar, Joseph, Colfax, Ind.
- (M) Gibble, Pius, R., Liberty, Ind.
- (M) Fisher, Kenneth, Seymour, Ind.
- (E) Groff, Forrest, Noblesville, Ind.
- (E) Hamilton, William, 1397 Locust St., Middletown, Ind.
- (E) Harshbarger, Albert, Bainbridge, Ind.
- (E) Hartman, Kenneth, 1729 Shortridge Drive, Lafayette, Ind.
- (M) Heeter, Robert, Ladoga, Ind.
- (E) Hewitt, Alva, Windfall, Ind.
- (M) Hiatt, Paul, 2212 George St., Fortville, Ind.
- (E) Hilbert, Carl, R. 2, Hagerstown, Ind.
- (M) Hilbert, Lloyd, R. 2, Hagerstown, Ind.
- (E) Hoover, Clarence, Chesterfield, Ind.
- (E) Hoover, M. M., Hagerstown, Ind.
- (E) Hylton, Charles, R. 1, Mulberry, Ind.
- (E) Hylton, Samuel, 3840 Kenwood, Indianapolis, Ind.
- (E) Kendall Paul, Box 176, Sharpsville, Ind.
- (M) Kinsel, Waldo, R. 4, Lafayette, Ind.
- (L) Leckrone, Paul, North Manchester (College), Ind.
- (E) Long, Daniel, 3165 Kenwood Ave., Indianapolis, Ind.
- (M) Lyons, Edward, 3435 West VanBuren, Chicago, Ill.
- (E) McCullough, Estel, 227 West St., Pendleton, Ind.
- (E) Miller, Clessie, R. 1, Straughn, Ind.
- (E) Miller, Daniel, Ladoga, Ind.
- (E) Miller, J. A., 1507 W. Eighth St., Muncie, Ind.
- (E) Mitchell, John, Clay City, Ind.
- (E) Norris, E. O., 217 N. W. Fourth St., Richmond, Ind.
- (M) Norris, Marion, 1232 E. Twenty-second St., Anderson, Ind.
- (E) Petry, Elden, 3705 Columbia Ave., Anderson, Ind.
- (M) Phipps, Elmer, Sharpsville, Ind.
- (M) Pyles, Claudius, Middletown, Ind.
- (E) Replogle, Frank, Rossville, Ind.
- (E) Roof, A. B., 1697 Jefferson St., Anderson, Ind.
- (E) Root, John, Rossville, Ind.
- (E) Shively, L. S., 2025 West Jackson St., Muncie, Ind.
- (E) Showalter, R. L., 1810 West Mulberry, Kokomo, Ind.



- (E) Sollenberger, C. C., 319 Glenwood Ave., Muncie, Ind.
- (M) Stoner, John E., Ph.D., 820 South Park, Bloomington, Ind.
- (M) Shull, Arthur, 3111 Forty-Eighth St., Indianapolis, Ind.
- (E) Teeter, E. C., 2209 Cherrywood, New Castle, Ind.
- (E) Tinkle, William, R. 1, Albany, Ind.
- (E) Wagoner, G. F., R 4, Delphi, Ind.
- (M) Wagoner, John Robert, M.D., Delphi, Ind.
- (M) Wagoner, Ralph, 3435 Van Buren St., Chicago, Ill.
- (E) Werking, O. D., R. 2, Hagerstown, Ind.
- (E) Wine, G. L., Rossville, Ind.
- (E) Zirkle, O. H., 405 North Eighth St., Middletown, Ind.

### **MIDDLE INDIANA**

The division of the State into Districts in 1868 gave to Middle Indiana the following churches: White County, Mexico, Squirrel Creek (Roann), Manchester, Clear Creek, Blue River, Beaverdam, Eight Mile (Markle), Salimony, Antioch (Andrews), Eel River, Santa Fe, Pipe Creek, Upper Deer Creek, Lower Deer Creek, Wabash, Prairie Creek, Bachelor Run. Somerset was later added from Southern Indiana, and Winamac from Northern Indiana.

### **Churches in 1882**

The "Record of the Faithful" shows the following church membership in 1882: Antioch, 110; Bachelor Run, 350; Beaverdam 140; Clear Creek, 150; Eel River, 259; Eight Mile, 72; Lower Deer Creek, 124; Marion, 55; Manchester, 300; Mexico, 350; Monticello, 150; Ogans Creek, 125; Pipe Creek, 200; Prairie Creek, 75; Palestine, 108; Spring Creek, 100; Somerset, 110; Salimony, 244; Sugar Creek, 100; Squirrel Creek, 150; Upper Deer Creek, 150; Winamac, 32; Adamsboro, 15; Wabash, 120; Walnut Level, 60.

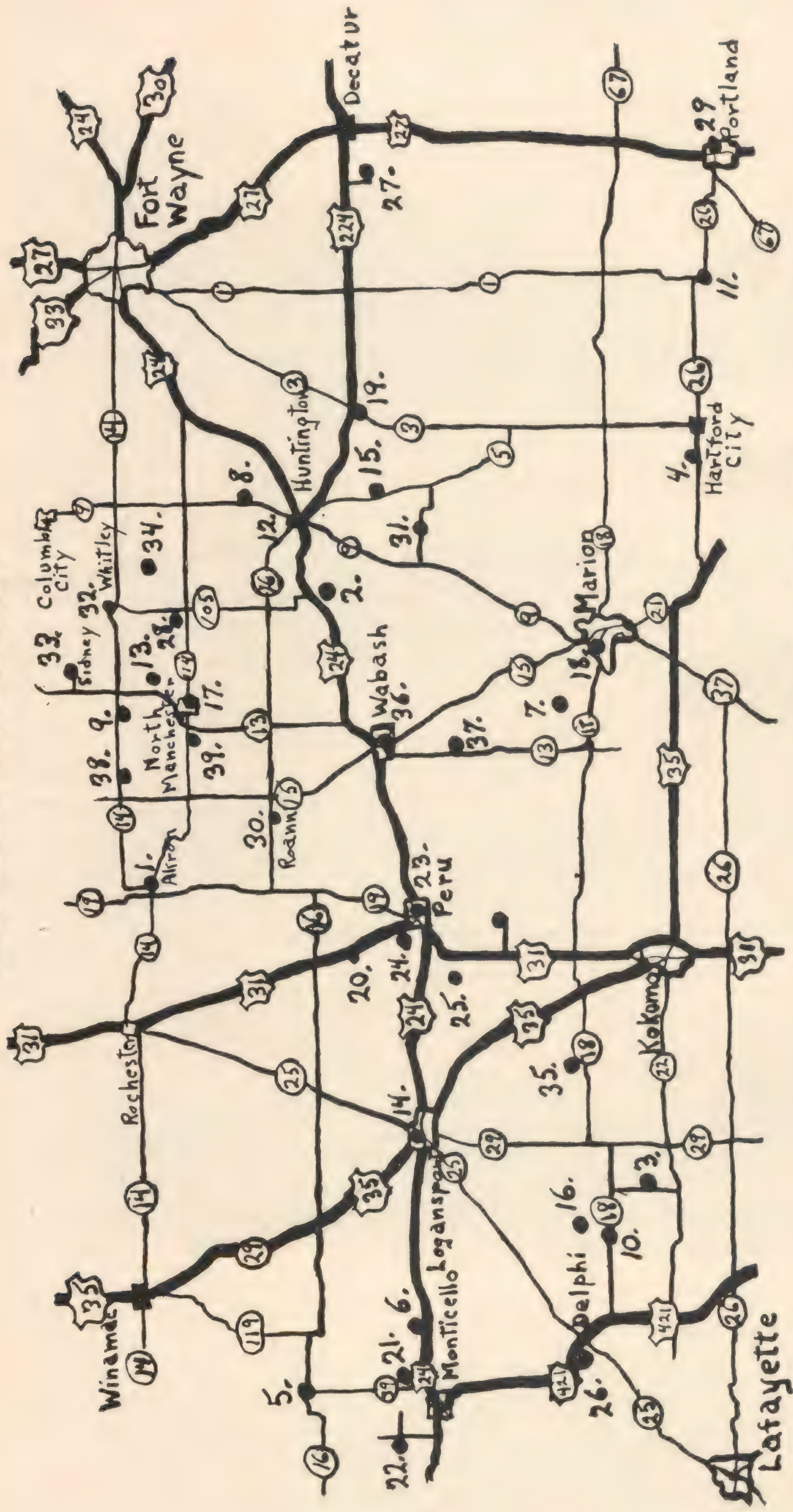
Taking these figures as correct the District then numbered over 3,500. Since then some of the strong churches, like Beaverdam, have ceased to exist. In their places new organizations have sprung up, especially in the cities. In 1882 scarcely any members were to be found in the towns and cities.

### *Early Leaders*

Under the account of local churches the leaders of the early days are given due prominence. Such men as William Moss, John White-neck, David Shoemaker, Isaac C. Lawshe, Joseph Leedy, John Shively, John Bowman, Samuel Murray and others were active in spreading the Gospel of Christ. The District did not have many men prominent in the work of the General Brotherhead. From 1867 to 1877 the District was represented on the Standing Committee by the following brethren: Jacob Flora, 1869, 1874, 1876; Jacob Metzger, 1867, 1870, 1872;



# MIDDLE INDIANA



- 1 Akron
- 2 Andrews
- 3 Bachelor Run
- 4 Bethel Center
- 5 Buffalo
- 6 Burnettsville
- 7 Cart Creek
- 8 Clear Creek
- 9 Eel River
- 10 Flora

- 11 Hickory Grove
- 12 Huntington
- 13 Liberty Mills
- 14 Logansport
- 15 Loon Creek
- 16 Lower Deer Creek
- 17 Manchester
- 18 Marion
- 19 Markle
- 20 Mexico

- 21 Monticello Pike Creek
- 22 Monticello Guernsey
- 23 Peru
- 24 Bloomfield
- 25 Pipe Creek
- 26 Pittsburg
- 27 Pl. Dale
- 28 Pl. View
- 29 Portland
- 30 Roann

- 31 Salamonie
- 32 So. Whitley
- 33 Spring Creek
- 34 Sugar Creek
- 35 Upper Deer Creek
- 36 Wabash City
- 37 Wabash Country
- 38 West Eel River
- 39 West Manchester



# District Meetings of Middle Indiana, 1877 to 1916

Year	Where Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	On Standing Committee
1877—	Monticello	Jesse Myers	Daniel Bowser	Abram Leedy	J. S. Snowberger
1878—	Santa Fe	Jacob Flory	Abram Miller	W. S. Toney	David Neff
1879—	Sugar Creek	David Neff	Abram Miller	John P. Wolfe	Joseph Amick
1880—	Ogans Creek	David Bechtelheimer	John P. Wolfe	Joseph Amick	John P. Wolfe
1881—	Upper Deer Creek	Abram Miller	John P. Wolfe	Joseph Amick	John P. Wolfe
1882—	Manchester	Joseph Leedy	J. S. Snell	J. G. Royer	Joseph Leedy
1883—	Bachelor Run	R. H. Miller	J. S. Snell	J. G. Royer	R. H. Miller
1884—	Clear Creek	R. H. Miller	John P. Wolfe	J. G. Royer	R. H. Miller
1885—	Mexico	R. H. Miller	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	Isaac Fisher
1886—	Prairie Creek	R. H. Miller	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	David Neff
1887—	Eel River	R. H. Miller	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	R. H. Miller
1888—	Pipe Creek	R. H. Miller	D. P. Shively	A. S. Culp	J. S. Snell
1889—	Salimony	David Neff	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	J. H. Wright
1890—	Somerses	David Neff	D. P. Shively	J. H. Wright	David Neff
1891—	Bachelor Run	R. H. Miller	D. P. Shively	J. H. Wright	R. H. Miller
1892—		J. S. Snell	D. P. Shively	J. H. Wright	J. S. Snell
1893—	Monticello	D. P. Shively	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	D. P. Shively
1894—	Manchester	D. P. Shively	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	David Bechtelheimer
1895—	Landess	D. P. Shively	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	Samuel Leckrone
1896—	Mexico	D. P. Shively	J. S. Snell	J. H. Wright	S. S. Ulrey
1897—	Bear Creek	L. T. Holsinger	Daniel Snell	W. S. Toney	Dorsey Hodgden
1898—	Pipe Creek	L. T. Holsinger	David Dilling	Frank Fisher	J. H. Wright
1899—	Bachelor Run	D. P. Shively	A. L. Wright	Frank Fisher	L. T. Holsinger
1899—	Eel River	Dorsey Hodgden	A. L. Wright	W. S. Toney	J. H. Wright
1900—	Eel River	Daniel Snell	Frank Fisher	J. H. Wright	Dorsey Hodgden
1901—	Pleasant Dale	S. S. Ulrey	A. L. Wright	W. S. Toney	Daniel Snell
1902—	Mexico	Samuel Leckrone	David Dilling	E. M. Crouch	David Dilling
1903—	Monticello	J. H. Wright	L. H. Eby	Frank Fisher	I. D. Parker—L. H. Eby
1904—	Manchester	A. G. Crosswhite	Daniel Snell	E. M. Crouch	A. G. Crosswhite
1905—	Bachelor Run	Frank Fisher	W. S. Toney	J. H. Wright	Frank Fisher
1906—	Pleasant Dale	Daniel Snell	D. B. Garber	E. M. Crouch	Daniel Snell
1907—	Eel River	Frank Fisher	J. H. Wright	A. L. Wright	Frank Fisher—J. H. Wright
1908—	Mexico	S. S. Ulrey	A. G. Crosswhite	D. B. Garber	S. S. Ulrey—A. G. Crosswhite
1909—	Monticello	A. L. Wright	J. D. Mishler	J. G. Stinebaugh	A. L. Wright—G. E. Swihart
1910—	Manchester	D. B. Garber	David Dilling	J. C. Murray	D. B. Garber—David Dilling
1911—	Huntington	Frank Fisher	A. G. Crosswhite	Otho Winger	Frank Fisher—A. L. Wright
1912—	Flora	J. H. Wright	G. E. Swihart	I. B. Wike	J. H. Wright—David Dilling
1913—	Pennville	Frank Fisher	S. S. Blough	I. B. Book	S. S. Blough—Frank Fisher
1914—	W. Manchester	J. H. Wright	Otho Winger	D. B. Garber	Otho Winger—J. H. Wright
1915—	Mexico	J. C. Murray	Chas. Oberlin	I. B. Book	J. C. Murray—S. S. Blough
1916—	Markle	Frank Fisher	Otho Winger	I. C. Snively	Frank Fisher—Otho Winger



# District Meetings of Middle Indiana, 1917 to 1951

Year	Place Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	Standing Committee
1917—	Manchester	J. H. Wright	I. B. Book	S. S. Blough	Frank Fisher, Otho Winger
1918—	Meeting recalled because of flu epidemic				J. H. Wright, S. S. Blough
1919 (April 3)—	Manchester	Frank Fisher	Otho Winger	Ira Long	Frank Fisher, Otho Winger
1919 (October)	Salamonie	I. B. Book	F. D. Butterbaugh	Edward Kintner	I. B. Book, J. C. Murray
1920—	Eel River	Otho Winger	Ira Long	L. W. Shultz	Otho Winger, Ira Long
1921—	Pleasant Dale	I. B. Book	C. C. Kindy	V. F. Schwalm	Otho Winger, Ira Long
1922—	Flora	Otho Winger	Edward Kintner	L. W. Shultz	I. B. Book, C. C. Kindy
1923—	Spring Creek	I. B. Book	V. F. Schwalm	C. C. Kindy	Otho Winger, L. W. Shultz
1924—	Mexico	Otho Winger	Edward Kintner	L. W. Shultz	I. B. Book, C. C. Kindy
1925—	Upper Deer Creek	I. B. Book	V. F. Schwalm	R. H. Miller	Edward Kintner, V. F. Schwalm
1926—	Burnettsville	Otho Winger	R. C. Wenger	Edward Kintner	Otho Winger, R. H. Miller
1927—	West Manchester	I. B. Book	Charles Oberlin	T. A. Shively	Otho Winger, Edward Kintner
1928—	Spring Creek	Edward Kintner	R. C. Wenger	H. H. Helman	I. B. Book, Charles Oberlin
1929—	Flora	Otho Winger	T. A. Shively	H. H. Helman	I. B. Book, R. H. Miller
1930—	Huntington	Edward Kintner	Charles Oberlin	H. H. Helman	Edward Kintner, T. A. Shively
1931—	Eel River	H. L. Hartsough	Ray Shank	R. C. Wenger	Charles Oberlin, H. L. Hartsough
1932—	Mexico	Otho Winger	Charles Oberlin	R. C. Wenger	Edward Kintner, Ray Shank
1933—	Pike Creek	Edward Kintner	T. A. Shively	R. C. Wenger	Otho Winger, Charles Oberlin
1934—	Salamonie	J. O. Winger	Moyne Landis	W. C. Stinebaugh	J. O. Winger, T. A. Shively
1935—	Manchester	Edward Kintner	Charles Oberlin	W. C. Stinebaugh	Moyne Landis, Edward Kintner
1936—	Flora	J. O. Winger	T. A. Shively	W. C. Stinebaugh	J. O. Winger, Charles Oberlin
1937—	Huntington	Edward Kintner	Charles Oberlin	L. W. Shultz	W. C. Stinebaugh, T. A. Shively
1938—	Peru	J. O. Winger	Moyne Landis	L. W. Shultz	Edward Kintner, Charles Oberlin
1939—	West Manchester	Edward Kintner	Charles Oberlin	L. W. Shultz	Moyne Landis, J. O. Winger
1940—	Mexico	T. A. Shively	J. O. Winger	W. C. Stinebaugh	Moyne Landis, W. C. Stinebaugh
1941—	Monticello	Edward Kintner	Moyne Landis	W. C. Stinebaugh	C. Oberlin, T. Shively, J. Winger
1942—	Salamonie	T. A. Shively	Charles Oberlin	W. C. Stinebaugh	E. Kintner, W. Stinebaugh, T. Shively
1943—	Manchester	Moyne Landis	C. Ray Keim	L. W. Shultz	T. Weaver, R. Zook, C. Oberlin
1944—	Flora	Edward Kintner	Ray Zook	L. W. Shultz	R. Boaz, M. Landis, V. Schwalm
1945—	Huntington	V. F. Schwalm	Charles Oberlin	L. W. Shultz	R. Boaz, V. Schwalm, C. Sink
1946—	Manchester	T. G. Weaver	Galen Lehman	L. W. Shultz	T. Weaver, Ray Zook, G. Lehman
1947—	West Manchester	Clarence Sink	Charles Oberlin	L. W. Shultz	C. Oberlin, G. Lehman, C. Sink
1948—	Mexico	T. G. Weaver	Galen Lehman	L. W. Shultz	J. Johnson, A. F. Morris, R. Sink
1949—	Manchester	Russell Bollinger	Charles Oberlin	L. W. Shultz	R. Bollinger, J. Johnson, E. Weaver
1950—	Spring Creek	Charles Oberlin	E. Paul Weaver	C. Ray Keim	L. Custer, R. Bollinger, R. Weller
1951—	Flora	E. Paul Weaver	William Eberly	Jay Johnson	C. Oberlin, W. Stinebaugh, E. Weaver
1952—	Manchester	Leonard Custer	Earl Hostetter	Jay Johnson	W. Stinebaugh, A. Morris, C. Oberlin



Jesse Myers, 1867, 1875; David Bechtelheimer, 1868; Jacob Karns, 1871; John Baker, 1873.

### **Missions**

The District did not begin organized mission work as early as some Districts. Having a smaller territory than either Southern or Northern Indiana, the great need of District mission work did not seem so apparent. And yet there were those who saw much to be done.

In 1879 there was a good missionary meeting held at Spring Creek. Of this meeting J. S. Snoeberger was moderator, Jacob Crumrine reading clerk, W. S. Toney, writing clerk. It was shown that three brethren had 2,400 square miles of territory to look after. Five western counties were practically untouched. A plan for missionary work was formulated to be presented to the District Meeting. At this time the District gave its consent to the work, but did not in itself take up the work until 1881.

In 1881 the District took up the work definitely by adopting a plan of its own and appointing its own Mission Board. The members of the first board were S. M. Aukerman, John Snoeberger, Solomon Eikenberry, Christian Lesh and Artemus Smith. The following have served on this board in the first thirty-five years of its history: S. M. Aukerman, 1881-1895; John Snoeberger, 1881-1896; Solomon Eikenberry, 1881-1887; Christian Lesh, 1881-1882; Artemus Smith, 1881-1890; Abraham Rinehart, 1882-1887; D. P. Shively, 1887-1891; Daniel Horning, 1887-1899; Jacob Crumrine, 1889-1890; W. S. Toney, 1890-1897; Frank Fisher, 1891-1893; E. M. Grossnickle, 1891-1898; Daniel Snell, 1893-1898; Aaron Mishler, 1895-1900; S. S. Ulery, 1896-1901; A. L. Wright, 1897-1902; Leander Pottenger, 1898-1903; Samuel France, 1898-1903; A. G. Crosswhite, 1899-1904; John Neff, 1902-1907, and 1908-1913; David Dilling, 1903-1908; Geo. E. Swihart, 1904-1909 and 1916-1921; D. B. Garber, 1905-1910; J. L. Cunningham, 1906-1911; S. S. Gump, 1907-1912; D. M. Byerly, 1909-1919; J. W. Norris, 1910-1915; J. B. Baily, 1911-1916; J. G. Stinebaugh, 1912-1922; Emery Miller, 1913-1921; S. S. Blough, 1915-1919.

During these years these brethren and others did much work in some of the western counties. Beaver Creek, in Pulaski County, Palestine, in White County, and Kewanna, in Fulton County, received much aid and attention. In late years the board gave much attention to city work. Churches were organized in Logansport, Marion, Wabash, Peru, South Whitley and Walton. Churchhouses were built in Marion and Peru. Local pastors were provided for some of the places. Constructive and permanent work was the ideal the board had in mind.

### **Sunday-Schools**

Perhaps the first Sunday-school in the District was in the Salimony



congregation in 1866. Other schools were organized from time to time, though there was considerable opposition for years.

The first District Sunday-School Convention was held at the Spring Creek church in April, 1879. Elder Frederick P. Loehr was present at this meeting and addressed the young people. The meeting was organized with David Bechtelheimer, moderator, Abram Leedy, reading clerk, and Joseph Amick, writing clerk. Those who attended say it was a most inspiring meeting. One paper presented by Joseph Amick shows that in Indiana during 1878 the M. E. Sunday-schools received over five hundred children from Brethren homes into the church. A regular committee was appointed to conduct such a meeting the following year. This committee was composed of Joseph Amick, Solomon Aukerman, W. S. Toney, Emma Bowman and Martha Connell.

The outlook for the future of the Sunday-school seemed bright. But the influence of Old Order Brethren was such that these meetings were discontinued after a few years and were not revived until 1899.

Frank Fisher was appointed District Sunday-school Secretary in 1901. In 1902 he made his first report. It showed thirty-six Sunday-schools with a total enrollment of 1,207. The offerings for the year were \$625.67. There was given for missionary purposes \$146.95. Fifty-three pupils had been received into the church during the year. Fifteen years later the secretary reported the following: Forty-nine Sunday schools with a total enrollment of 5,498. The offerings of the year were \$5,612.63; amount given to missions, \$1,859.92; 191 were brought into the church through the Sunday-school. Every one of the schools was evergreen. The Sunday-schools are supporting one missionary on the foreign field.

The Sunday School Secretaries of the district have been Frank Fisher, Otho Winger, G. L. Wine, Catherine Neher (now Mrs. Oren Eikenberry), Mrs. Cora Pettit, and Lawrence W. Shultz. Brother Shultz served as Sunday School Secretary, secretary of the Board of Christian Education, and field man during the thirty years, 1916-1946. For most of those years he edited a District News Letter.

From a Sunday School Committee in 1918 the work has been given to a commission that has come in later years to be known as the Board of Christian Education. The whole education program of the local church is now being promoted by this board. For a number of years, during the 20's, a summer assembly was very successful in doing this promotion.

1. Under its direction Vacation Schools were begun and fostered—the first one in the state being held in the Spring Creek Church in the summer of 1920. In 1950 and 1951 a gratifying revival of interest in this field is noted.



2. This board helped begin the youth work of the district and the region. In 1922 at the request of Elder A. G. Crosswhite of the Peru Church, L. W. Shultz assisted in the calling of the first Youth Conference. This was held at the Peru Church and resulted in the beginning of the present youth organization, which was soon followed by youth cabinets in the other districts of the state and region.

3. In 1924 the Board promoted the beginning of Camp Alexander Mack and has been interested in its program and work since then.

The work of the church in the district is now promoted by a field man—T. G. Weaver served, 1946-1949, and H. L. Hartsough since 1949. The Boards of the district work together also as a Joint Board.

### **1952 Joint Board of Organization**

Russell Bollinger, Chairman

W. C. Stinebaugh, Vice-chairman

Ralph L. Boyer, Secretary

Ralph S. Huffman, Treasurer

H. L. Hartsough, Field Man

At various periods during the years 1917-1930 the following have served as members of the Mission Board of Middle Indiana: D. M. Byerly, S. S. Blough, Emery Miller, George Swihart, J. G. Stinebaugh, Perry Coblentz, Charles R. Oberlin, J. A. Snell, Alva Winebrenner, J. O. Winger, J. W. Norris and Ira Kreider.

In 1930 the work of the Mission Board and that of the Ministerial Board were combined under one board, known as the Mission-Ministerial Board. This plan has continued to the present. Those who have served at various periods on the board are: Ray O. Shank, Alva Winebrenner, George Deaton, Granville Deaton, Ray E. Zook, Elmer H. Gilbert, V. F. Schwalm, Arthur F. Morris, Ralph L. Boyer, J. O. Winger, Charles R. Oberlin, T. A. Shively, Jay J. Johnson and Edward Kintner. The last four have served for many years and Charles R. Oberlin is again a member of the board. These laymen have served: Alva Winebrenner, Granville Deaton and Ralph L. Boyer.

Those who served on the Ministerial Board before the merger in 1930 were: Edward Kintner, B. F. Petry, H. H. Helman, D. W. Paul, A. P. Musselman, I. B. Book, V. F. Schwalm, H. L. Hartsough, C. C. Kindy and J. G. Stinebaugh.

In 1951 two pastoral supports were aided by the Board—Marion and the joint pastorate between Bethel Center and Hickory Grove churches.

Middle Indiana has 37 congregations—70 elders, 43 ordained ministers, and 13 licensed ministers. There are 2,700 families and 6,585 members.





**Andrew Snoeberger, the veteran Sunday School Teacher, and His class of children.**



**Joint Boards of Middle Indiana, 1950**

**Back Row—E. Paul Weaver, Vernon Stinebaugh, A. F. Morris, Charles R. Oberlin.**

**Middle Row—Mrs. Russell Michael, H. F. Richards, Mrs. Walter C. Stinebaugh, Robert Beery, Leonard Custer, Mrs. Bruce Young.**

**Front Row—Ralph S. Huffman, Ralph L. Boyer, Russell L. Bollinger, Harvey L. Hartsough, Walter C. Stinebaugh.**



**NORTHERN INDIANA**

The Northern District of Indiana also included the southern part of Michigan. We do not have a written record of the first District Meeting, but do have the minutes preserved from 1867 to 1870. Neither do we have the membership of these early churches. The roll call at the District Meeting of 1869 showed the following churches represented by delegates: Fawn River, A. S. Kline and George Long; Shipshewana, Samuel Lupole and A. Bare; Elkhart, Daniel B. Stutsman and P. S. Garman; Yellow Creek, Samuel Lear and Jacob Eversole; Pine Creek, David Rupel and John Barnhart; Pokagon, John Stretch and John Ulrick; Rock Run, Jacob Berkey and Levi Weaver; Black River, F. P. Loehr; Portage, Jacob Miller and J. H. Miller; Baugo, Joel Shively and Eli Metz; South Bend, Abraham Whitmer and David Ulrick; Union, John Knisley and John Hoover; Bremen, John Neff and Daniel Mart; Tippecanoe, C. Brumbaugh and Samuel Fields; Solomon's Creek, Daniel Shively and Jesse Calvert; Washington, David Cripe and George Whipple; Union Center, John Angemyer and Daniel Neff; Blue River, Wesley Hire; Cedar Creek, Jeremiah Gump and Byron Rich; Pigeon River, Michael Shotts and Jonathan Wehrley; Springfield, Joseph Ebey and Joseph Weaver; Turkey Creek, S. E. Miller and N. Drake; Hawpatch, Elias Schrock; Winamac, James Bennett and Daniel Freeman; St. Joseph, Christ Wenger and C. Miller; Walnut, not represented. Of this meeting, D. B. Sturgis was moderator and Jesse Calvert writing clerk. The meeting was held in the Whitehead meetinghouse, Union Center church.

It will be noticed that many of the churches of today were active then. Winamac later became a part of Middle Indiana. Some of the active churches then have ceased to exist. Many of the new churches of today have come about through division of the old territory.

The minutes of these early meetings showed that the Brethren had their problems. They were not those of raising finance for missions, education and other movements, but questions pertaining to divorce, avoidance, and some of the questions that were soon to cause trouble with the Old Order and Progressive movement.

We have not been able to locate the consecutive minutes prior to 1883. The following show where the District Meetings were held: 1867, Elkhart; 1868, Portage; 1869, Union Center (Whitehead House); 1870, Elkhart Valley; 1871, Solomon's Creek; 1872, Pine Creek; 1873, Elkhart; 1874, Elkhart; 1875, Yellow River; 1876, Rock Run; 1877, Blue River; 1878, English Prairie; 1879, Union Center (Whitehead house); 1880, Union; 1881, Turkey Creek; 1882, Cedar Creek.

**Churches in 1882**

In 1882 the report of the churches showed the following member-



ship: Baugo, 110; Blue River, 100; Bremen, 55; Cedar Lake, 64; Camp Creek, 50; Cedar Creek, 36; Columbia City, 40; Elkhart, 275; English Prairie, 147; Elkhart Valley, 91; Flat Rock (DeKalb County), 35; Laporte, 76; Little St. Joe, 35; Pleasant Hill, 40; Pleasant Valley, 30; Pleasant Ridge (now Wawaka), 32; Pine Creek, 320; Pigeon River, 88; Portage, 102; Rock Run, 240; Solomon's Creek (now Bethany), 260; Shipshewana, 107; St. Joseph, 140; Springfield, 32; South Bend, 175; Tippecanoe, 140; Turkey Creek, 125; Union, 175; Union Center, 200; Van Buren, 46; Walnut 62; Washington, 162; Yellow River, 100; Yellow Creek, 90. The membership at that time totaled nearly 3,800.

### **Early Leaders**

From 1850 to 1870 Jacob Miller, of Portage Prairie, was perhaps the best known elder in Northern Indiana, especially after the death of James Tracy in 1856. He generally served on the Standing Committee in those days when the committee was chosen by the local elders where the Annual Meeting was held. After the District began selecting the delegates on the Standing Committee, the following represented Northern Indiana from 1868 to 1882 in successive years: Jacob Miller, Jacob Berkey, Christ Wenger, Jacob Miller, D. B. Sturgis, D. B. Sturgis, Michael Shotts, D. B. Sturgis, John Knisley, Jesse Calvert, Jesse Calvert, D. B. Sturgis, Jeremiah Gump.

These were the days when the District could reelect a delegate on the Standing Committee as often as they desired. D. B. Sturgis usually moderated the District Meetings; Jesse Calvert was frequently the writing clerk.

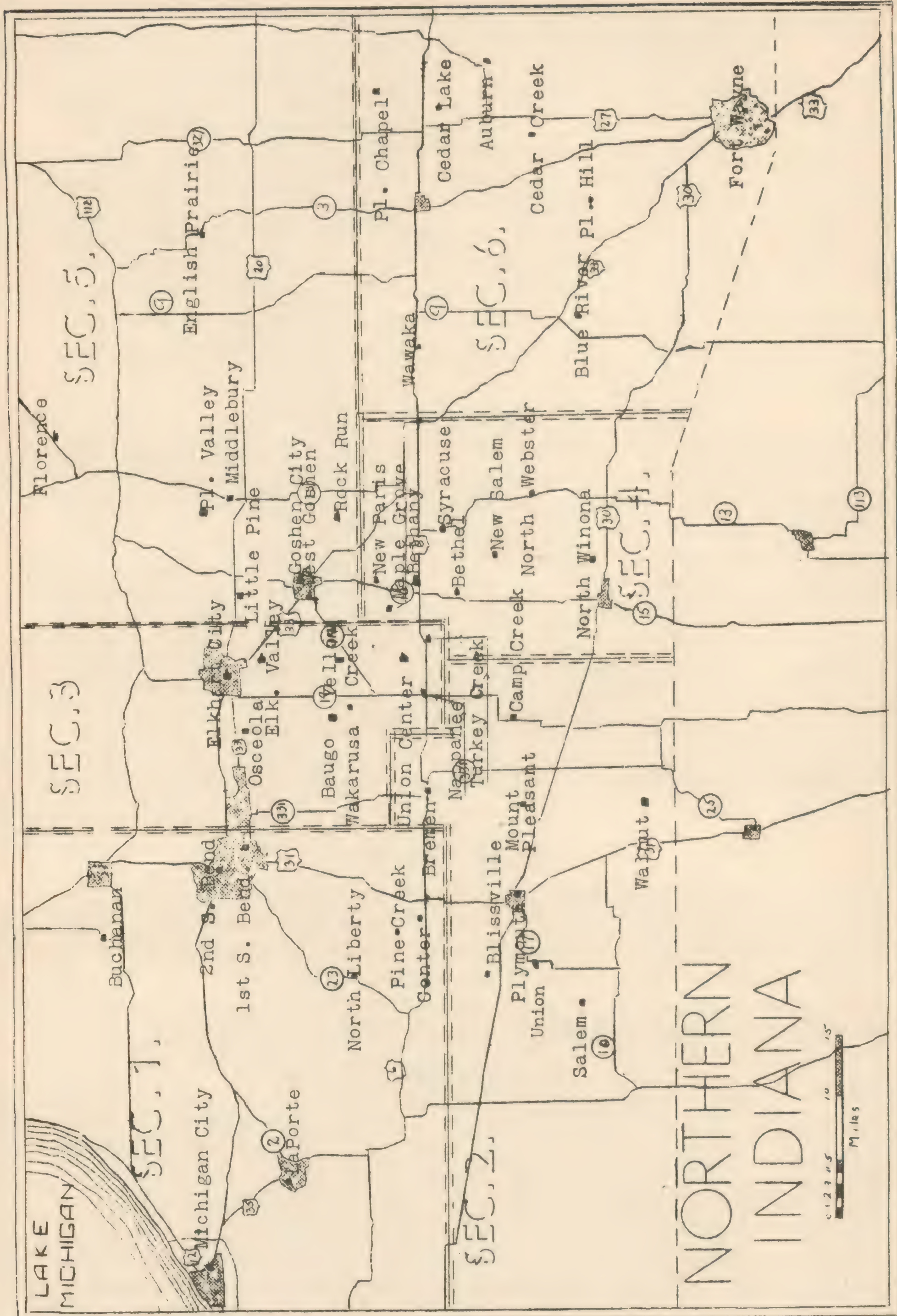
### **The Churches Today**

In 1951 there were 49 churches on the roll, with a promising mission, Auton Chapel, near South Bend. Elkhart City is the largest, with 602 members. The 1950 record shows a total membership of 8,859. The standard bearers of former years have passed away but there are a large number of strong younger men to carry on, and the future of the church in Northern Indiana is very encouraging.

### **Mission Board**

The District has always been interested in mission work. As early as 1885 a Board of Missions was organized to establish churches in new territory in the district. As time went on the responsibilities of the Board were increased for in 1900 a new plan was adopted which continued until 1942 when the Mission Board was combined with the District Ministerial Board, since much of the work of the two Boards overlapped, and each needed to consult the other frequently.





LAKE MICHIGAN

SEC. 1,

SEC. 3

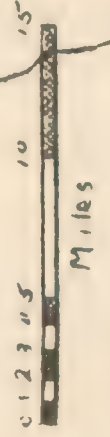
SEC. 5,

SEC. 2,

SEC. 6,

SEC. 4,

NORTHERN INDIANA





The members of the Mission Board during its history were:

Hiram Forney till 1891; Franklin Anglemyer till 1887; John Robinson till 1892; Henry Neff, 1887-1898; D. J. Whitehead, 1891-1909; James Neff, 1892-1898; R. W. Davenport, 1897-1911; Levi Weaver, 1898-1907; D. J. Anglemyer, 1907-1913; Henry Wysong, 1909-1912; J. H. Schrock, 1911-1917; 1925-1931; D. R. Yoder, 1912-1927; David Metzler, 1913-1919; Christian Metzler, 1917-1935; Frank Kreider, 1919-1925. Homer Weldy, 1927-1942. Galen Bowman, 1931-1942; J. S. Zigler, 1935-1938; C. C. Cripe, 1938-1941; Howard Kreider, 1941-1942.

#### **Ministerial Board**

As early as 1906 Northern Indiana realized the need of a more efficient ministry. In that year a committee of three men were appointed, known as the Ministerial Distribution Committee, which was continued until 1919 when in harmony with the plan of the General Brotherhood, a new organization, called the District Ministerial Board was effected, which continued until its merger with the District Mission Board in 1942. Members of this committee and Board follow. Ministerial Distribution Committee at various times: I. L. Berkey, Manly Deeter, Eli Roose, John R. Miller, H. W. Krieghbaum, J. W. Kitson, J. W. Grater, Hiram Roose, J. H. Fike, William Hess, Calvin Huber and I. S. Burns. Ministerial Board: Manly Deeter, 1919-1920; C. C. Cripe, 1919-1924; 1925-1928; 1929-1931; David Metzler, 1919-1922; 1923-1926; 1929-1935; Henry Wysong, 1920-1923; T. E. George, 1922-1925; 1926-1929; H. A. Claybaugh, 1924-1933; Ira Long, 1928-1929; 1938-1941; J. H. Schrock, 1931-1933; Frank Kreider, 1933-1939; Edward Stump, 1933-1937; H. S. Bowers, 1935-1938; H. F. Richards, 1937-1942; John Frederick, 1939-1942; N. H. Miller, 1941-1942.

#### **Mission-Ministerial Board**

Howard Kreider, 1942-1947; N. H. Miller, 1942-1944; Galen Bowman, 1942-1943; 1944-50; G. W. Phillips, 1942-1946; 1947-1949; Allen Weldy, 1942-1948; Eldon Evans, 1943-1949; Mark Schrock, 1946-1947; Arthur Keim, 1947-50; Cecil Keiser, 1948-51; Ralph Petry, 1949-; Russell Sherman, 1949-; Galen Whitehead, 51-.

In keeping with the increased interest in missions, the offerings for missions in the district have also increased greatly. Eleven missionaries have gone to the foreign fields from the district: Adam Ebey. Winnie Cripe, Evelyn Frank, Dr. and Mrs. Homer Burke, Dr. and Mrs. Howard A. Bosler, Anna Warstler, Mary Velma Ober, Nylita Stillwell, and Clarence Snyder. Two others, Baxter and Anneta Mow served on the field for some years, who had lived in the district for quite a number of years. The first three named have passed away, the first two died on the field. Two others, Herbert and Marjorie Gump.



# District Meetings of Northern Indiana, 1883 to 1916

Year	Where Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	On Standing Committee
1883—	Washington	W. R. Deeter	W. G. Cook	J. H. Miller	W. R. Deeter
1884—	Pleasant Valley	W. R. Deeter	J. H. Miller	Jesse Calvert	J. H. Miller
1885—	Elkhart Valley	W. R. Deeter	J. H. Miller	A. H. Puterbaugh	W. R. Deeter
1886—	Springfield	Jere. Gump	J. H. Miller	A. H. Puterbaugh	Jere. Gump
1887—	Shipshewana	W. R. Deeter	J. H. Miller	A. H. Puterbaugh	J. H. Miller
1888—	Elkhart	Peter Long	J. H. Miller	A. H. Puterbaugh	Peter Long
1889—	Bethel	Jere. Gump	Daniel Whitmer	A. H. Puterbaugh	Amos Peters
1890—	South Bend	W. R. Deeter	J. C. Murray	A. H. Puterbaugh	W. R. Deeter
1891—	Walnut	W. R. Deeter	J. C. Murray	A. H. Puterbaugh	I. C. Murray
1892—	Yellow Creek	W. R. Deeter	J. C. Murray	A. H. Puterbaugh	W. R. Deeter
1893—	Rock Run	Lemuel Hillery	J. C. Murray	A. H. Puterbaugh	A. H. Puterbaugh
1894—	Turkey Creek	W. R. Deeter	J. H. Miller	A. H. Puterbaugh	J. H. Miller
1895—	Solomon's Creek	I. D. Parker	J. C. Murray	A. H. Puterbaugh	I. D. Parker
1896—	Union Center	J. H. Miller	H. W. Kreighbaum	Hiram Roose	J. H. Miller
1897—	English Prairie	W. R. Deeter	J. C. Murray	I. D. Parker	J. C. Murray
1898—	Cedar Lake	A. H. Puterbaugh	W. B. Neff	Eli Roose	A. H. Puterbaugh
1899—	Yellow Creek	W. R. Deeter	J. C. Murray	A. I. Mow	J. C. Murray
1900—	Bethel	S. F. Sanger	Daniel Wyson	Hiram Roose	I. L. Berkey
1901—	West Goshen	George Zollers	J. C. Murray	A. I. Mow	W. R. Deeter
1902—	Solomon's Creek	S. F. Sanger	Daniel Wyson	Eli Roose	S. F. Sanger—I. L. Berkey
1903—	Rock Run	W. R. Deeter	Manly Deeter	Hiram Roose	W. R. Deeter
1904—	Turkey Creek	S. F. Sanger	Eli Roose	W. B. Neff	W. B. Neff
1905—	Pleasant Valley	W. R. Deeter	Manly Deeter	E. L. Heestand	S. F. Sanger
1906—	Walnut	S. F. Sanger	I. D. Parker	Lafayette Steele	I. L. Berkey
1907—	Pine Creek	Manly Deeter	Frank Kreider	David Metzler	Manly Deeter—S. F. Sanger
1908—	West Goshen	W. R. Deeter	Henry Wyson	Hiram Roose	W. R. Deeter—I. L. Berkey
1909—	English Prairie	S. F. Sanger	Lafayette Steele	M. C. Horst	Daniel Wyson—E. Roose
1910—	Union Center	Manly Deeter	J. W. Kitson	Frank Kreider	Manly Deeter—Frank Kreider
1911—	Springfield	David Metzler	Lafayette Steele	M. C. Horst	David Metzler—E. L. Heestand
1912—	Solomon's Creek	Manly Deeter	Frank Kreider	J. W. Kitson	Frank Kreider—W. R. Deeter
1913—	Rock Run	David Metzler	Lafayette Steele	J. H. Fike	David Metzler
1914—	Middlebury	Frank Kreider	J. F. Appleman	J. W. Kitson	Manly Deeter—Frank Kreider
1915—	Pine Creek	David Metzler	J. H. Fike	Eli Heestand	David Metzler—J. H. Fike
1916—	Washington	Manly Deeter	Lafayette Steele	T. E. George	Lafayette Steele—E. L. Heestand



# District Meetings of Northern Indiana, 1917 to 1951

Year	Place Held	Moderator	Reading Clerk	Writing Clerk	Standing Committee
1917—	Goshen City	David Metzler	S. J. Burger	E. L. Heestand	David Metzler, S. J. Burger
1918—	West Goshen	Manly Deeter	L. M. Neher	J. W. Grater	Manly Deeter
1919—	Winona Lake	David Metzler	J. F. Appelman	C. C. Cripe	David Metzler, Henry Wysong
1920—	Turkey Creek	Frank Kreider	S. J. Burger	H. L. Hartsough	Frank Kreider, S. J. Burger
1921—	Bremen	David Metzler	H. Fike	H. H. Helman	David Metzler, Manly Deeter
1922—	1st South Bend	T. E. George	Manly Deeter	C. C. Cripe	T. E. George, C. C. Cripe
1923—	Pine Creek	David Metzler	H. H. Helman	J. W. Grater	David Metzler, Henry Wysong
1924—	Elkhart City	T. E. George	J. F. Appelman	C. C. Cripe	David Metzler, T. E. George
1925—	Union Center	David Metzler	William Buckley	J. W. Grater	C. C. Cripe, J. W. Grater
1926—	Yellow River	T. E. George	C. C. Cripe	Ira Long	C. C. Cripe, T. E. George
1927—	Blue River	David Metzler	Charles Light	J. W. Grater	David Metzler, Ira Long
1928—	Walnut	T. E. George	E. C. Swihart	H. S. Bowers	J. W. Grater, Ira Long
1929—	Yellow Creek	David Metzler	T. G. Weaver	C. C. Cripe	David Metzler, T. E. George
1930—	Nappanee	J. H. Schrock	Charles Light	H. A. Claybaugh	J. H. Schrock, H. A. Claybaugh
1931—	West Goshen	T. E. George	A. F. Morris	T. G. Weaver	David Metzler, C. C. Cripe
1932—	Pine Creek	H. A. Claybaugh	C. C. Cripe	H. S. Bowers	S. S. Blough, H. A. Claybaugh
1933—	Bremen	T. E. George	T. G. Weaver	Galen Bowman	C. C. Cripe, David Metzler
1934—	Nappanee	H. A. Claybaugh	Burton Metzler	C. C. Cripe	T. E. George, Frank Kreider
1935—	Elkhart City	T. E. George	John Metzler	Galen Bowman	David Metzler, Burton Metzler
1936—	Goshen City	Burton Metzler	A. F. Morris	G. W. Phillips	Galen Bowman, T. G. Weaver
1937—	Yellow Creek	T. E. George	John Metzler	T. G. Weaver	Edward Stump, Frank Kreider
1938—	Plymouth	Edward Stump	Charles Light	Gorman Zook	J. Grater, J. Zigler, C. C. Cripe
1939—	New Paris	John Metzler	Ralph Rarick	C. C. Cripe	D. Metzler, E. Stump, J. Metzler
1940—	Camp Mack	A. F. Morris	Howard Kreider	C. C. Cripe	I. Long, J. Metzler, R. Sherman
1941—	Camp Mack	H. F. Richards	Russel Sherman	C. C. Cripe	A. Morris, G. Bowman, G. Phillips
1942—	Camp Mack	G. W. Phillips	Russel Stout	C. C. Cripe	E. Stump, C. Cripe, G. W. Phillips
1943—	Camp Mack	H. F. Richards	Russel Sherman	C. C. Cripe	R. Sherman, G. Bowman, J. Frederick
1944—	Camp Mack	T. E. George	J. O. Winger	C. C. Cripe	E. Evans, H. Kreider, T. E. George
1945—	Camp Mack	Eldon Evans	James Beahm	C. C. Cripe	C. Light, H. Kreider, T. E. George
1946—	Camp Mack	G. W. Phillips	Russel Sherman	C. C. Cripe	J. Beahm, E. Evans, G. Phillips
1947—	Camp Mack	Eldon Evans	James Beahm	C. C. Cripe	J. Beahm, R. Sherman, C. C. Cripe
1948—	Camp Mack	James Beahm	Kenneth Long	C. C. Cripe	A. Keim, A. Gump, G. Bowman
1949—	Camp Mack	Russel Sherman	S. Longenecker	C. C. Cripe	S. Longenecker, R. Sherman, C. C. Cripe
1950—	Camp Mack	Arthur Keim	Russel Sherman	C. C. Cripe	E. Evans, R. Petry, M. Schrock
1951—	Camp Mack	John Metzler	Charles Stouder	C. C. Cripe	H. Will, C. Stouder, T. Weaver



have volunteered for the field. Two others, Orville and Lois Sherman, have spent a year for Brethren Service in Venezuela, and Lois Rupel spent two years for Brethren Service in administering relief in Europe.

Besides, the New Paris Church fully support Dr. and Mrs. Bosler in Africa, Dr. Leonard Blickenstaff in India, the work budget of Edith Bosler in Africa and partially support Chalmer Shull in India, and Harold Royer and Marilyn Studebaker in Africa; West Goshen fully supports Anna Warstler in India; Ft. Wayne supports Lucile Heckman in Africa and the budget of Dr. Leonard Blickenstaff in India; Elkhart City and Cedar Lake supports Velma Ober in China; Blue River partially supports Grayce Brumbaugh in Africa; North Winona partially supports Susan Stoner in India.

### **Board of Christian Education**

Feeling the need of greater emphasis on religious training, the District Meeting of 1920 organized a Board of Religious Education. The following served as members of this Board through the years:

H. S. Bowers, 1920-1929; H. H. Helman, 1920-1922; Milo Geyer, 1920-1924; Manly Deeter, 1922-1928; Mrs. Glen Purkey, 1924-1927; T. G. Weaver, 1928-1932; William Kinsey, 1928-1931; Nettie Weybright, 1929-1932; J. Clyde Forney, 1931-1932;

In 1932 the name of the Board was changed to the Board of Christian Education to conform with the pattern of the General Board of Christian Education. The name has continued, but their fields of operation have greatly enlarged. Following have been the personnel: T. G. Weaver, 1932-1937; J. Clyde Forney, 1932-1934; Florence Studebaker, 1932-1933; Burton Metzler, 1934-1937; G. W. Phillips, 1937-1942; Fern Price, 1938-1941; Eldon Evans, 1940-1943; George U. Heeter, 1941-1944; 1946-51; Russel Stout, 1942-1945; Arthur C. Keim, 1943-1946; James H. Beahm, 1944-1948; Kenneth G. Long, 1945-1949; Samuel Longenecker, 1947-; Mrs. Dan West, 1949; Mrs. Ralph Petry, 1951-.

### **DRESS REFORM BOARD**

In 1920 District Meeting also organized what was then called the Simple Life and Dress Reform Board, but later the name was changed to the Welfare Board. It continued until 1929 when it was merged with the Board of Religious Education. Those who served on the Board were: Nettie Weybright, 1920-1929; S. J. Burger, 1920-1922; Frank Kreider, 1920-1921; Melvin Stutsman, 1921-1927; Bertha Neher, 1922-1928; Laura Appleman, 1927-1929; Mary Morris, 1928-1929.

### **BRETHREN SERVICE IN INDIANA**

The program of Brethren Service has had many of its roots in the state of Indiana. War conditions provided the great impetus which be-





**The District Boards of Northern Indiana, 1950**

**Each picture, read left to right**

**MISSION-MINISTERIAL BOARD (Upper left)**

Charles A. Light, Mark Y. Schrock (Field Man), Russell A. Sherman, Cecil Keiser, Homer E. Schrock, Ralph Petry.

**BRETHREN SERVICE BOARD (Lower left)**

George Weybright, Mrs. Allen Weldy, Paul A. Phillips, O. E. Price (Men's Work President), Mrs. Amanda Metzler (Women's Representative).

**JOINT BOARDS (Upper right)**

(Front row) George U. Heeter, O. W. Stine, C. C. Cripe, Mark Y. Schrock, John D. Metzler (Conference Moderator), Russell A. Sherman.

(Second row) Mrs. Ruth Swihart, Mrs. George Heeter, Mrs. Allen Weldy, Mrs. George Weybright, Mrs. Dan West, Ted Cripe (Y. P. Rep.), George Weybright.

(Back row) Ralph Petry, George Stull, S. W. Longenecker, Homer E. Schrock, O. E. Price, Paul A. Phillips, Fred Priser, Charles A. Light, Cecil Keiser.

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Lower right)**

Mrs. George U. Heeter, John D. Metzler, Ted Cripe, George Stull, Mrs. George Weybright, Mrs. Dan West, George U. Heeter, S. W. Longenecker, Mrs. Ruth Swihart.



gan the program of the Brethren Service Committee, although its program had been in action in Spain in 1937, it did not catch the popular fancy until the war conditions in the United States stimulated activity.

For some years a Peace Commission consisting of Brethren C. Ray Keim, O. W. Neher and L. W. Shultz had been emphasizing the peace doctrine in the church and were responsible for having Conference to declare herself by means of comprehensive statements. At about the time of the beginning of the Selective Service Law, a regional counsellor was selected for the central region of our church, as well as for other regions. It was the function of this counselling service to assist in the preparation of questionnaires, in filing appeals, and in any general difficulties in connection with the selective service Act. The regional counsellor, John Metzler, lived in Indiana; therefore Indiana became a focal center of the Central Region for the ensuing Brethren Service activities.

One of the first of the many Brethren Service programs which came to fruition in Indiana was the Heifer Project. Dan West had developed this idea as a result of his experiences in Spain. The germ of the idea was presented to a Men's Meeting in Middlebury. The men were rather enthusiastic about the possibilities of sending live animals for breeding purposes to Europe to help re-establish the herds, as well as to provide milk for the people there. This was long before shipment was possible, so the first idea was to set aside calves which would be grown to maturity and then shipped if conditions were such that shipment could be made.

As a result of this meeting in Middlebury, a committee, consisting of O. W. Stine, Ivan Syler and George Craig, was appointed to explore cautiously the idea in Northern Indiana. The committee decided to send out a sample leaflet to a few churches to find out what the response might be. Although it was explained that this was just sent out for a preview and not for action, pledges began to come in so it seemed that the idea was valid.

The first heifer was donated by Virgil Mock and was raised by Claire Stine, of Goshen. From this start, it was not a long step to the actual pledging of animals and tagging them for the Heifer Project Committee. A man was assigned by selective service to work part time on this project. Marvin Sanger was this first secretary. He kept the project moving until animals were ready to ship. It was impossible to ship to Europe, so one shipment was arranged to sharecroppers in Arkansas. Another was sent to Puerto Rico, and later a second shipment went to Puerto Rico. A few cattle were sent to Mexico.

In the meantime, the idea was spreading throughout our church, and was adopted and accepted by other church groups. The net result was the moving of headquarters from Indiana to the Brethren Service



Center at New Windsor, Maryland, and the establishment of the Office there. With the UNRRA program, the shipping of cattle overseas, became a rather rapid process. The Brethren Service Committee undertook to provide the livestock attendants for the UNRRA cattle and horses that were sent. During the next few years activity was at a high pitch.

Cattle were sent to Greece (the first livestock sent to Europe following the war were from the Heifer Project Committee); to Belgium, to Italy, to Poland, to Ethiopia, to China, to Czechoslovakia, to France and to other countries. Up to date, over six thousand head of cattle have been sent by the Heifer Project Committee. A rather important offshoot of this is the sending of goats to the Orient. Over four thousand milk goats have gone, making a total of more than ten thousand animals shipped for relief and rehabilitation as a result of the meeting held in one of the Indiana churches.

Soon after the establishment of Civilian Public Service Camps, the question of providing food for the men in those camps came to the forefront of attention. It was thought that the people of our churches would be glad to provide food for the men in the camps if the food could be moved to where it was needed. A preliminary letter was sent to a number of the churches in Indiana and other nearby states, announcing that a truck would be around at a certain date to collect these contributions of foodstuffs. The first trip was purely experimental. The driver of the truck was Dan Clem, of New Paris. One of the camp trucks was used. The route started from Lagro, Indiana, to the west and south, then east across Ohio, and back across the northern end of Ohio, returning to Camp Lagro. Long before the circuit had been completed the truck was filled. One load was taken from Ohio over into Camp Kane in northern Pennsylvania. It seemed that the idea was successful.

One of the interested members of the church in Indiana donated a truck which could be used for the purpose of collecting food. Two men were assigned to the driving of the truck. A system of record keeping was established; depots were set up in various churches throughout Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. Fruit jars by the carload were purchased and distributed for home canning. Thus began the food project of the Brethren Service Committee.

At first these collected foods were stored at Camp Lagro and were taken to other camps in the region. Before long it was realized that merely dropping off at the most convenient camp the food collected on a trip would result in surpluses at some spots and scarcities at others, as well as undesired distribution of varieties, so a storage space was sought. Camp Lagro provided this storage until the weight of the food broke down the floors in some of the buildings. A new storage was found at New Paris, Indiana, in a store building which could be heated



during the winter weather. It seemed that this place might be amply large, for it would hold a number of truckloads of food. It was not long, however, until this, too, was filled to capacity. Very careful records were kept of the origin of the food, its variety, and the amount in stock. Out of this stock the various camps would order the foods which they would need and they would be delivered by the truck. Because this center, too, was outgrown, a new space was sought. It was found in Nappanee, Indiana. Trucks and men from the Northern District of Indiana moved the tons of food from New Paris to the new location in Nappanee, and this, in turn, became the center of the trucking operations, not only for the central region, but also for other parts of the country. The truck moved as far west and south as Magnolia, Arkansas, and served depots of the Church of the Brethren in Kansas, Iowa and Missouri, as well as in other parts of the country. Needless to say the first small trucks were soon outgrown, and were replaced by a tractor and semi-trailer. Later on, this was outgrown, until at the present time the Brethren Service Commission is operating five of these tractor-trailer trucks.

It was but a step from the home canning of food for this purpose to the establishment of a canning factory which could be used to produce food in tins for shipping overseas. Such a cannery was constructed at New Paris, Indiana, and was operated for several years processing foods grown mostly in Indiana for relief purposes. A number of carloads of canned corn and beans and other foods were shipped overseas in the period immediately following the war.

During the earlier days of the war period, and in the period preceding the war, many members of the Church of the Brethren had been sending clothing for relief through the American Friends Service Committee in Philadelphia. There was a close relationship between them and the Brethren Service Committee. Our college became the center for receiving this relief clothing and for repacking it to forward it to Philadelphia for final packing and shipping.

As the trucks began their regular trips for the collection and distribution of food, members of local congregations wondered whether the trucks themselves could not also handle clothing for relief. They had already been handling bedding and clothing which could be used in the Civilian Public Service camps, so it was relatively simple to add clothing items to the stock of materials which were collected by the trucks on their rounds. These materials were taken to Manchester College for re-shipment to Philadelphia.

To provide work garments for the men in Civilian Public Service camps, arrangements were made with Mennonite sewing centers to purchase cut garments. As these came to Nappanee cut out ready to be sewn by women's groups, they were distributed to the groups, were



made and returned to Nappanee, and then were forwarded to camps on order. These garments were sent all over the United States to men in Civilian Public Service camps. It was decided to purchase a cutting machine and begin the cutting of the cloth, rather than purchasing the cut-out garment.

About this time the Brethren Service Commission felt that there was enough activity among churches of the Brethren to justify handling their own relief clothing and projects, rather than routing materials through some other agency, so investigation was made, and it was decided to begin the actual packing of clothing for overseas shipment. The clothing which had been taken to Manchester College previously was now sent to the center at Nappanee, and there the first sorting and baling of garments for overseas shipment was done. Volunteer labor came in to help with this preparation for shipping.

Again, it was not long before quarters were outgrown. In the search for more space, a three-story building, approximately 40 x 120 feet, was purchased and is in use at the present time at Nappanee, Indiana. This has developed into the center for Brethren Service activities in the midwest.

One of the unique projects which has developed here is the soap factory constructed of a railroad tank car cut into three sections and stood on end. This soap factory has produced from waste and purchased fats, over three hundred tons of soap which has been sent for relief.

Indiana remains one of the active centers in the Brethren Service program. One of the heifer collection farms which was in operation almost from the beginning of the project continues to be in operation here. The center at Nappanee has two trucks stationed at that point and serves much of the midwest. The only soap factory which the Commission has established is at Nappanee. Thus, Indiana has had a large part in developing some of the projects which have caused favorable comment for the activities of the Brethren Service Commission.

Those who have served on the District Brethren Service Committee in Northern Indiana at various times have been : Harold E. Yoder, Mrs. Allen Weldy, Jesse Eisenhour, G. W. Phillips, Paul Phillips, Mrs. Lucile West and Abe Neff. In 1947 the duties of the committee were enlarged and a regularly elected board was organized, the members since being : Abe Neff, 1947-50; 51-; Mrs. Allen Weldy, 1947-51; George Weybright, 1947-51; Paul Phillips, 50-51; Milo Weaver, 51-; Mrs. Amanda Metzler, 51-; a representative of the Men's Work and a representative of the Women's Work.

### **DEPARTMENTAL DEVELOPMENT**

During the years 1917-1951 the districts of the state helped to lead



the way for the growing departmental work of the general church.

(1) The Women's Work had begun before 1900 as Sisters' Aid Societies. In the first five decades of the present century the work had grown to include their interest and work in Mission Study, Stewardship, Relief, Temperance, Home-builders and Worship. Their official name now is Women's Work.

(2) Men's Work began in the early 1920's. P. G. Stahly of South Bend, and Dr. O. G. Brubaker of North Manchester were pioneers in this movement and initiated the first plans and purposes for the movement across the Brotherhood. Later C. C. Hawbecker and J. E. Dotterer issued some manual material for the men to study in the field of stewardship. Men's Work has emphasized the program of Brethren Service, giving much time to the giving of Heifers to Europe, wheat and other food gifts to needy people. They have helped inspire the men in local churches to do much for their local church in church improvement and personal evangelism.

(3) Since 1922 the young people of the church districts have organized district and sectional group work featuring programs of worship, recreation, fellowship and service. They have done this through conference and camps and volunteer service.

(4) In recent years Intermediate Directors have been chosen for the districts.

(5) Children's Work Directors are now a part of the district set of officers directing the children's workers in the local churches.

(6) Other leaders have been appointed to head the promotion of various fields of emphasis, such as Brotherhood Budget, Missions, Brethren Service, Temperance, Peace, Music, etc.

Some of the present leaders of the groups are as follows:

#### **Women's Work Presidents**

Middle Indiana . . . . .	Mrs. Leonard Custer
Northern Indiana . . . . .	Mrs. Ralph Swihart
Southern Indiana . . . . .	Mrs. G. L. Wine

#### **Men's Work Presidents**

Middle Indiana . . . . .	Robert Beery
Northern Indiana . . . . .	Owen Price
Southern Indiana . . . . .	Joe Fisher

#### **C.B.Y.F. (Church of the Brethren Youth Fellowship)**

Middle Indiana . . . . .	Paul Hoffman
Northern Indiana . . . . .	Lowell Metzler
Southern Indiana . . . . .	Margaret Hilbert



### **Intermediate Directors**

Middle Indiana . . . . . Mr. and Mrs. Selwyn Copeland  
 Northern Indiana . . . . . Mrs. Glen Purkey  
 Southern Indiana . . . . . Ruth Dutro

### **Children's Directors**

Middle Indiana . . . . . Mrs. Russel Michael  
 Northern Indiana . . . . . Mrs. Charles Young  
 Southern Indiana . . . . . Mrs. Mahlon Rinehart

### **Brethren Service Directors**

Middle Indiana . . . . . H. L. Hartsough  
 Northern Indiana . . . . . Milo Weaver  
 Southern Indiana . . . . . Arthur Shull

## **IN GENERAL BROTHERHOOD WORK**

During the last fifty years some native sons who have served in the work of the general brotherhood are: Lafayette Steele in the Sunday School field; Otho Winger, in the fields of Education and Missions (31 years); Clyde Culp and Edwin Grossnickle, at the general treasury of the church; H. L. Hartsough, in the Ministerial work; V. F. Schwalm, Education, Missions, and Brethren Service; John Metzler, C. P. S. and Relief; Lawrence W. Shultz (24 years), Christian Education, Youth work and Brethren Service; Allen Weldy, in Men's Work.

Others who have represented the area from Indiana are: Sara Halladay, Dan West, J. H. Mathis, E. Paul Weaver, H. F. Richards, O. G. Brubaker, Mrs. E. R. Fisher, and L. S. Shively.

## **MEXICO WELFARE HOME**

The Mexico Old Folks and Orphans Home was founded in the year 1889, by Levi P. Miller, a member of the Mexico Church of the Brethren.

The year 1916 found the Home in its 27th year of operation; Elder Frank Fisher was General Manager, while Sister Anna Wagoner (Deal) was Matron in charge. It was in January of 1916 that Brother and Sister J. C. and Edith Warstler came to the Home closing their work in the fall of 1917, returning again in 1921 and remaining until the fall of 1930, when they closed their work on account of Brother Warstler's health.

Others who labored here were: Brother and Sister Rupert Landis, Brother and Sister Dan Kinzie, Brother and Sister John Vettters, Brother and Sister Lawrence Deardorf, Brother and Sister Marion Norris, Brother and Sister William Hendricks, Brother and Sister Ralph Rarick, Sister Rosemary Smith, Sister Nancy Beard, Sister



Goldie Kelton Killion, Sister Maggie Brown, Brother and Sister William Eiler, Brother and Sister Lemoyne Stineman, Brother and Sister Floyd Franc, Brother and Sister Ervin Weaver, Brother and Sister Arlie Caskey, and Brother and Sister Henry Swayer who are now in charge of the work.

As the writer remembers there were possibly 125 children in the Orphans Home at one time during the year 1916, at one time during the late 1920's the number rose to as many as 137, the average number of old folks then were from 18 to 22.

The Mexico Home continued to operate as an Old Folks and Orphans Home until the year of 1943, when the orphans part was discontinued due to conditions beyond the control of the Brethren in charge. At this time there was considerable thought of abandoning the Home altogether; however, owing to the splendid leadership and management of Brother Marion Miller and others, a remodeling program was instituted which brought all three buildings into a single unit, which makes a very nice and comfortable Home for the aged people.

The Mexico Home has grown as a result of much labor, struggle and sacrifice on the part of those individuals who were here dedicated to a Great Task.

By action of the Trustee Board the name was changed from the Mexico Old Folks and Orphans Home to the Mexico Welfare Home on April 14, 1936.

Since 1889 there have been thousands of orphaned and homeless children who have gone in and out of the doors of this Home, as well as hundreds of aged people who have found here a refuge from the storms of life. Many who lived their last days here were some who early in life of the Home labored here for its growth and development. Prominent among these were Elder Noah and Hannah Fisher, the president and secretary of the first Board of Trustees; Elder Frank Fisher, the first Superintendent of the Home, lived his last months here. Brother Fisher was affectionately called "Papa Fisher" by thousands of boys and girls who went through the Home during the years of his labor for the growth and development of this Home.

Outstanding among those who labored here were, according to their length of service, Frank Fisher, Marion Miller, Anna Wagoner Deal, J. C. and Edith Warstler, J. F. and Laura Appleman. Many others have served; however, these stand out in the History of this Home as having carried heavy responsibility and performed hard work for the growth and development of this Home.

During the time that the future of this Home was in question an invitation was extended to the other two Church districts of Indiana, to join in the operation and maintenance of the Mexico Home. The





**Views of the Homes, Mexico, Ind.**

Northern District came in with the Middle District in 1944 at District Meeting time. We are happy to report that at the Southern Indiana District Conference of 1951, they decided to join with the other two Districts in the operating and maintaining of the Home, thereby making it a Church of the Brethren Home on a state-wide basis.

While the Home has served a worthy cause over a long period of time, there is still plenty of need for strengthening and bettering the Home thereby making it more secure for those who will live here in years to come.

At the present time the Home is managed by fifteen trustees, five from each district as follows: Homer Weldy, Nappanee; Leroy Fisher, Milford; Nettie Weybright, Syracuse; Jesse Eisenhower, Syracuse; Ivan W. Syler, Plymouth (present secretary); Ralph W. Hoffman, Roann (present president); Wallace Musselman, Macy; Thurman Hopper, Onward (present treasurer); Oliver Mathias, Marion;





**Mexico Welfare Home, 1951**

Walter Metzger, No. Manchester; M. M. Hoover, Hagerstown; Walter Barnhart, Delphi; Joe Fisher, Buck Creek; Albert C. Campbell, Center Point; and Harry Gochenour, Mulberry, Indiana.

In order to strengthen the Home, thereby making it more secure for the future, the Board of Trustees solicits gifts to the Endowment fund, through outright gifts, bequests and annuities. The trustees are making plans to accept annuities.

It is almost impossible to mention all who have served this Home, however, we must mention Sister Lillie (mamma) Fisher and Brother Ira Fisher, who performed outstanding, unselfish service.

#### **Southern Indiana Welfare Home**

The Southern District of Indiana started a campaign to raise funds for an Orphans and Old Folks Home in 1881. The response was good and the first building was erected in 1884 on land purchased from J. P. Miller, located three miles north and two miles west of Sulphur Springs. At first, congregations held shares in the home in proportion to their contributions. Later the home was turned over to the district. The district operated it for a number of years but it was closed when there were only two members living there, Catherine Hoover and Alice Miller. The home was sold on contract in 1936. A board of trustees have had custody of the funds.

At the 1951 District Meeting, Southern Indiana voted to join the other districts in the support of the Mexico Welfare Home, investing the cash on hand, \$22,000, and agreeing to pay twenty percent of the operating expenses. The present trustees from Southern Indiana are listed above.



## CHAPTER V

### MISSIONS

The early churches of Indiana were mostly the product of a great missionary movement. Along with their desire to carve out homes in the wilderness, these pioneer Brethren were determined that these new homes and communities should be Christian. We owe much to these soldiers of the Cross who sowed the Gospel throughout much of Indiana.

All of this happened long before our modern mission fields in far-away lands were established. These later missionaries could show no greater zeal in establishing the church from "Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strands" than the pioneer missionaries who laid the foundation for the churches of Indiana today. No peril was too great: storms, swollen rivers, dark forests, wild beasts, hostile Indians, and many others. The only reward they sought was a great harvest of souls.

Only a few of these early messengers of God can be listed here: Jacob Miller, David Miller, Benjamin Bowman, Daniel Cripe, James Tracy, Henry Neff, William Moss, David Hardman, George Hoover, George W. Studebaker, Hiel Hamilton, John Metzger, Samuel Murray, David Shoemaker, Elias Caylor, Jacob Shively, John Whiteneck, Isaac Lawshe, Isaac Fisher, Daniel Bowman, David Rupel, John Knisley, Robert H. Miller, Joseph Leedy, George W. Cripe, Jeremiah Gump, Samuel Neher, and Hiram Branson.

All of the districts had large fields to develop, especially Northern and Southern Indiana. The latter includes nearly two thirds of the state and ran indefinitely into Kentucky. In 1867 Southern Indiana sent George W. Studebaker and Lewis Kinsey to explore their field and report. Some mention of the home mission work is told in the accounts of the Districts.

In foreign missions, Indiana was not the leading area exactly but her districts soon came to support the movement with both workers and money. The opening of Manchester College in 1895 gave the movement a vital center, with the Volunteer Mission Band and the Bible Society. Here were such pioneers as Adam and Alice King Ebey and Amos Ross. The Missionary Reading Circle, 1899, included as one of its first members Otho Winger, who was destined to give strong leadership to the General Mission Board for many years.



In the following pages an attempt has been made to give a very brief sketch of the missionaries who have gone to foreign fields from Indiana. Only those who were born and lived in Indiana or those born elsewhere but reared in Indiana are included. Others had contacts with Indiana in her churches, college or public schools but not all of these could be included. The two pioneers of Indiana in the foreign mission service were Adam and Alice King Ebey who offered themselves to the General Mission Board in 1900 and were accepted and sent to India. A sketch of their lives follows.



**Adam and Alice (King) Ebey**

Adam Ebey was born August 12, 1866, fifth of the fourteen children of Cornelius and Susan Huff Ebey, living near Wawaka. He united with the church at an early age, studied in Mount Morris two years and was called to the ministry in 1896. He continued his education at Manchester from 1896 to 1899. Another interested in missions, one of his teachers, was Alice King. They were married in September, 1900, and sailed for India in October.

Brother Ebey engaged in the varied activities of a pioneer missionary in India—educational work, evangelism, much medical aid, etc. For three and one half terms he labored faithfully in the work. Then, his health failed and he had to return in 1931. He and Sister Ebey lived in North Manchester where he continued to be active, often preaching in the Mission Chapel on the west side of the town and filling engagements among the churches. He died on September 11, 1939. All who knew him were impressed by his fine spirit and his utter devotion to his work.



**ALICE KING EBey**

Alice King was born to Daniel and Mary Gresso King near Laketon, November 11, 1871. She attended the grade and high schools locally, Mount Morris College and later Manchester, being one of the first students under the Brethren, 1895. She became an assistant to Professor E. S. Young in Bible and attended the University of Chicago one year, 1899-1900.

She became a member of the church at fourteen and was a teacher in the first Sunday School organized by the Manchester Church. She was assistant editor of *The Bible Student*, a monthly publication of Manchester College. She showed a great interest in missions in her writing, her classes, and college societies. She and one of her students, Adam Ebey, were married in September, 1900, and soon sailed for India. To them were born eight children, three sons and five daughters. Only two (daughters) survive. In India Sister Ebey had charge of a training school for workers at Vada and did much evangelistic work. She wrote commentaries in English for the Sunday School lessons which native scholars translated into Indian languages.

Since her retirement from the field in 1931, Sister Ebey has been quite active. Beginning in 1932, she taught the Women's Bible Class at her home church in North Manchester for eighteen years, when she was forced to retire because of an accident which has left her somewhat handicapped in walking. She has served Middle Indiana one year as Mission Secretary and has been on the Women's Work Cabinet of the district for nine years.

Her heart was in India and in 1945 she sailed for that land and spent two more years in the work. The radiance of this devoted life has been a great blessing to the people of India and to her neighbors and friends here in America.

**A. W. ROSS**

Brother Ross was born on a farm near Sidney on September 27, 1879, to Robert and Susan Snell Ross. He grew up in the Spring Creek church and went to Manchester College at the age of 17, where he was converted under the preaching of Brother T. T. Myers. The next year his church called him to the ministry. He attended Mount Morris from 1899 to 1902 when he graduated from the academy and a Bible course. He was influenced while there by President J. G. Royer, M. W. Emmert, D. L. Miller, and Wilbur Stover and Bertha Ryan, who were home on furlough from India. He helped found the Mount Morris Missionary Society which supported Brother D. J. Lichty in India for his forty-six years of service. June 12, 1902, he married Flora Nickey, daughter of Elder A. J. Nickey and sister of Dr. Barbara Nickey, missionary to India since 1915.





**Amos W. Ross and family**

Since no mission opportunity was then open, the Rosses took the pastorate of the Sterling, Colorado, Church and greatly strengthened it along with leading in the building of a new churchhouse. The Carthage, Missouri, Conference, 1904, asked them to go to India and they accepted and arrived in India in 1905. They were stationed in a new district (Vyara) where there was much opposition but when they came home on their first furlough they left behind them a church of three hundred fifty members. Their timely medical aid in an epidemic did much to overcome the fear of the native people. On the way home for a second furlough in 1922, Brother Ross suffered a stroke and never regained his health. They lived at North Manchester where he died May 31, 1926. He was buried in the Spring Creek Cemetery.

**DR. AND MRS. O. G. BRUBAKER**

Dr. O. G. Brubaker was born in Howard County May 11, 1875, to George and Mary Hamilton Brubaker. His mother was a daughter of Elder Hiel Hamilton, an active pioneer preacher. She lived to be over one hundred years old.

Dr. Brubaker graduated from Mount Morris College in 1899. After teaching a few years, he entered Rush Medical College and graduated in 1906. He practiced at Mount Morris and later at Burlington, Indiana. He first married Alice May Stitzel of Lanark, Illinois. She





**Dr. O. G. Brubaker**



**Mrs. Cora Mae Brubaker**

died after a few years, leaving him with three small children. He later married Cora Mae Cripe, daughter of elder George W. Cripe who lived near Pymont when she was born. When she was eight, her parents moved to Cerro Gordo, Illinois, where she grew up. She graduated from the high school at sixteen and spent some time in mission work in Chicago. So, when the call came to her husband to go to China in 1913, she readily answered the call.

They labored together in China till 1920, when they returned and have lived in North Manchester most of the time since. Dr. Brubaker is a nose, eye, ear, and throat specialist. They have been very active in the work of the local church and have kept up an active interest in the mission fields of the church.



**Winnie Cripe**

Born to Jonathan and Mary Ellen Rupel Cripe, September 13, 1884, Winnie Cripe was representative of two prominent Brethren families of Northern Indiana, the Cripes of Elkhart County and the Rupels of St. Joseph County. Her mother died when she was three but she was reared by a good Christian step-mother, Ella Bussard. Her



father was an elder and very earnest worker. He died in 1907. Her sister, Una, married Lafayette Steele. Her brother, Charles C., has been a life-long minister and leader in Northern Indiana. So, it is not surprising that Winnie also turned to church work. From fifteen on she was active in Sunday School work. In 1908 she entered Bethany and became interested in the Chinese Sunday School. In 1911 she went to China and served there till 1934 when she passed away and was buried at Liao Chow in China.

### JOSEPHINE POWELL

Josephine Powell was born near Williamsport, Indiana, June 6, 1871. Her parents were members of the Missionary Baptist Church. She spent much of her childhood with her grandmother who took a great interest in her. She united with the church of her parents but, learning of the Brethren through their mission at Williamsport, she joined them in 1896.

She entered Manchester College and spent several years in earnest preparation for her work. She was one of the early members of the Volunteer Mission Band. In 1906 the Mission Board appointed her to India where she served till 1920. She is still living in California although in impaired health.



**Catherine Neher and Minerva Metzger**

For over one hundred years the name Metzger has been common in Clinton County, Indiana. Elder John Metzger was one of the faithful missionaries of the Brethren in the early days. Other Metzgers have been active through the years. Minerva Metzger was born to Aaron C. and Catherine Metzger and was raised near the old Middlefork church, five miles southwest of Rossville. Here she united with the church in 1889 at the age of thirteen. She spent several years at Mount



Morris College and one term at Manchester. After teaching a few years she studied at Indiana University, graduating in 1909. Then she spent a year at Bethany and was appointed to the China field in 1910. She served until 1941 when she returned. On December 4, 1941, she passed away and was buried at Rossville, Indiana, her old home community.



**Lillian E. Grisso**

Lillian E. Grisso was born to Eli and Lydia Ohmart Grisso February 16, 1889, at Laketon, Indiana. She attended the Laketon High School and then studied at nearby Manchester College, graduating in 1915. She continued her preparation further at Cook County Hospital, Chicago, where she took a year of nurses' training, and at Bethany Biblical Seminary. She sailed for India in December, 1917, and has been on the field ever since, except for furloughs to the homeland. She has worked in several stations on the field, largely in educational and medical work. On one furlough she collaborated with others at Manchester College in writing a highly successful text in social studies for the upper grades. She is now, 1951, on furlough from the field and plans to go back for another term.

#### **DR. A. RAYMOND COTTRELL**

Dr. Cottrell was born near Pymont, March 21, 1884, to Eli and Catherine Wagoner Cottrell. He united with the church at eleven. His parents soon moved to North Manchester where his brother, D. Owen, graduated from the college with an A. B. Degree in 1903. Dr. Cottrell finished his high school work and went to the Brethren Publishing House at Elgin for three years. In 1906 he married Laura Murphy, of Greenville, Ohio. They spent a year in Bethany Bible School. Impressed with the need for medical missionaries they studied



**Dr. A. R. Cottrell****Mrs. Dr. Laura Cottrell**

two years in Battle Creek and two more at the University of Illinois where they received their M. D. Degrees in 1912. After an internship of a year at the Deaconess Hospital, Spokane, Washington, they sailed for India in 1913. On their first furlough they took special work in London in tropical diseases. They served from 1913 to 1949 in India, except for a short time in China in 1932. Since 1949 they have been in Florida. Dr. Raymond's health has not been good. Dr. Laura died in 1951.

**Brother and Sister J. I. Kaylor**

Rosa Wagoner was born into a family known for their devotion to the church in Carroll and Tippecanoe counties, February 5, 1885. Her parents were Andrew and Susan Hufford Wagoner. She was baptized at thirteen by Brother L. T. Holsinger. She worked at the Mexico Orphans' Home and then came to Manchester, graduating from the Bible Department in 1911. She was active in the Volunteer Mission Band. Another active member was John I. Kaylor, of Bellefontaine, Ohio. They were married August 2, 1911. Already under appointment to India, they began their labors there the same year.



She worked at Ahwa and Vada stations. Only six years later she passed to her eternal home.

### ELLA MILLER BRUBAKER

Ella Miller Brubaker is a descendant of Elder John Miller, one of the first residents and ministers of Elkhart Co. She was the fourth child of Elder John R. and Rachel Rupert Miller. She had a splendid Christian home and church, the Union Center congregation. Here she was baptized in 1893 by Elder I. D. Parker. She greatly desired to serve the church and spent several years in preparation, first at Manchester, later at Mount Morris. In the meantime she was engaged in city mission work.

In 1906 she volunteered for foreign service and was sent to India. On the same ship was Brother C. H. Brubaker of Virden, Illinois. They were married the following year. Only four years later Brother Brubaker was called from his labors and Sister Brubaker and her children returned to America. For many years she lived in North Manchester but is now living in Cincinnati, Ohio.



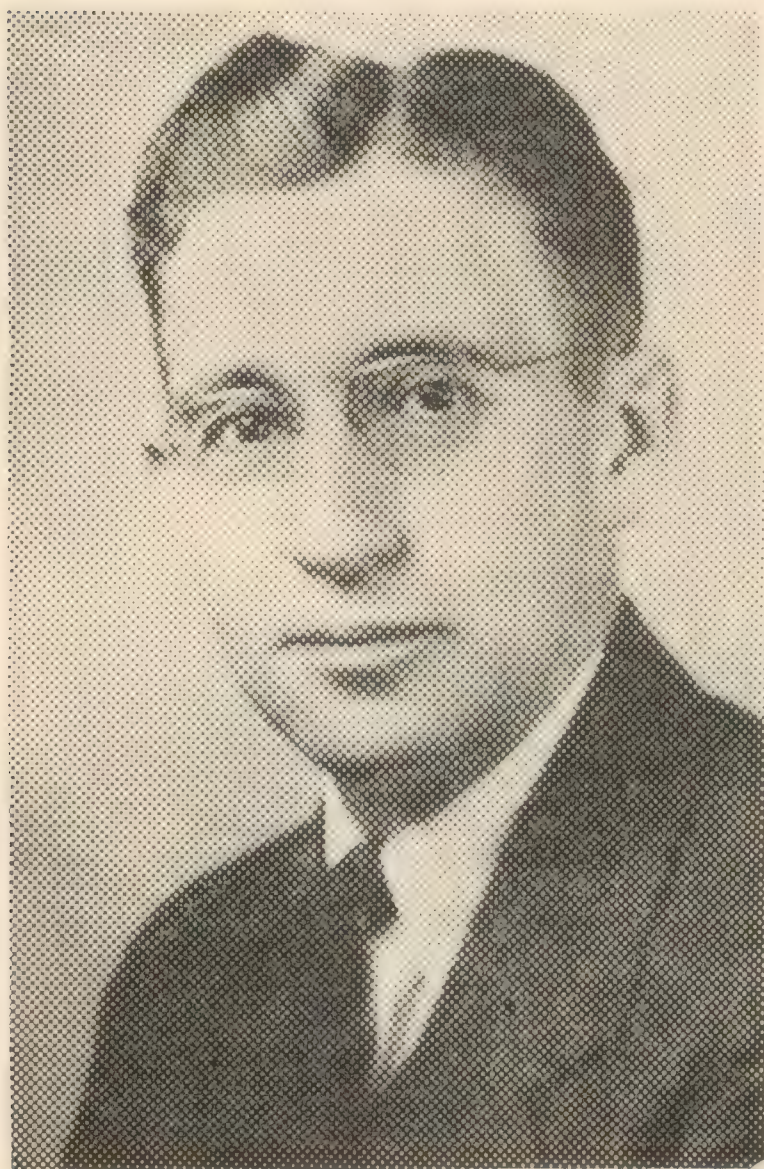
**Mrs. I. E. Oberholtzer, I. E. Oberholtzer, Laura Shock**

Laura Shock is a native of Huntington County, born August 4, 1886, to Ezra and Sarah Shock, members of the Huntington Country Church. She taught school for several years after completing her high school course. She got most of her college work at Manchester where she graduated in 1916. Looking forward to teaching as a career, she



decided while in college to go to China and be the teacher of the missionaries' children. She was approved by the Conference at Winona Lake in 1916 and sailed for China later in that year. Mrs. I. E. Oberholtzer, one of her close friends, was on the same boat, bound for the same field, in company with her husband and others.

Sister Shock was on the China field till 1941, when she retired and has lived at Huntington since.



**Ira W. Moomaw**



**Mabel Winger Moomaw**

Mabel Winger was born to John M. and Mary Ann Winger near Marion on February 8, 1899. She was the youngest of seven children, the oldest son being Otho Winger and the next Oscar Winger, both widely known in the church. A sister, Cora, is the wife of L. W. Shultz, also well known as a teacher at Manchester and the manager of Camp Mack.

Mabel's parents moved to North Manchester in time for her to take her high school work in the academy of Manchester College. She graduated from the college in 1920. While a student, she became a member of the Volunteer Mission Band.

On September 1, 1920, she was married to I. W. Moomaw of Canton, Ohio. They entered Ohio State University and she received



her A. M. degree in 1921. At the university she did social service work among Italian children. In December, 1921, they were appointed to the India field but did not get to go till 1923. Although her health was often not good, she and her husband labored very effectively in India till 1942. During the past nine years Brother Moomaw has conducted surveys of tenant farming communities in our Southern states, taught sociology and economics at Manchester College, lectured at Bethany Seminary for several quarters, and is now with an inter-mission organization in New York City. His specialty is agricultural missions. They live at Madison, New Jersey.

### **NETTIE BROWN SUMMER**

Nettie Brown was born to Reuben Brown and wife on July 27, 1891, in Henry County, near Blountsville. She attended high school at Hagerstown and then entered Manchester for teacher training work in 1909. She taught two years. It was during this period that she was baptized during a meeting held by J. Edson Ulery. The next year was spent in a Sunday School normal course at Manchester and then she taught for two more years. She attended Bethany Seminary, 1914-15. While working with Jewish people, she got a vision of mission work and went forward with her preparation at Bethany and then at Manchester where she graduated in 1919. She applied to go to India and was accepted by the Board. She spent the years 1920 to 1927 on the field in India. She married B. F. Summer, who also went out in 1920. They spent one term on the field and have lived in Chicago most of the time since 1927.

### **AMSEY F. BOLLINGER**

Amsey Bollinger was born to Daniel D. and Elizabeth M. Bollinger on February 10, 1898, at Shipshewana. He was the sixth child of a family of three sons and five daughters. The family migrated to Fruitland, Idaho, in 1913. He attended high school there and then entered Manchester College, graduating in 1922. This same year he married Florence Moyer, of Lansdale, Pennsylvania, whom he met at Manchester. Soon after their marriage they took up work in Greene County, Virginia, among the hill people, operating an industrial school. This work was carried on very successfully for seven years. He spent one year in Virginia Polytechnic Institute in further training. At the 1930 Conference, Hershey, Pennsylvania, the Mission Board asked them to serve in India and they accepted the call. They have been in India since 1930, except for furlough periods. Two of their three children have also gone to India. Virginia married Dr. Joe Schechter and they have gone to work on the India field. Richard and wife have gone to Woodstock School, India, where he had once been a student. Another son, Lowell is in the East, New York.



**MARY BRUBAKER BLICKENSTAFF**

Mary Brubaker was the eighth child of twelve born to Elder Ellis S. and Mary S. Brubaker. She was born on June 29, 1891, near Peru but her parents soon moved to within one mile of the Wabash Country Church. She graduated from the Somerset High School in 1908 and was baptized the same year by her father. She read at an early age books by D. L. Miller, Wilbur Stover and David Livingston which likely had much to do with arousing in her an interest in lands and peoples across the seas. She studied two years in the Columbia School of Expression, Chicago, graduating in 1910. She spent the following two years in study and teaching at LaVerne College. In 1912 she married Lynn A. Blickenstaff, then cashier of a LaVerne Bank. She lived in LaVerne ten years before going to India with her husband in 1921 where she served till 1949. Their son, Dr. Leonard Blickenstaff, has been serving in the India field since 1940. Another son, David, is with the United Nations in New York. A third son, Stephen, is also in New York City. Mary and Lynn are in New York at present.

**DR. HOWARD A. BOSLER**

Dr. Bosler was born into a family of thirteen, he being the eleventh child of Brother and Sister A. H. Bosler of near Huntertown, Indiana. He accepted Christ at eleven, under the preaching of Elder George L. Studebaker. In boyhood he already had the desire to be a missionary. He entered Manchester College in 1919 with much ambition and little money. Sacrifices by the parents and help from friends made it possible for him to go on. He attended LaVerne College a term in 1921, then continued at Manchester, receiving his degree in 1923. Of four years of teaching he taught the first and last in Indiana and the other two in Montana. In June, 1926, he married Edith Mae Gump, also of Indiana. He entered Indiana University Medical School in 1927 and by heroic efforts and sacrifices by both his wife and himself, he completed his medical training in 1931. They were appointed to Africa by the Mission Board and they sailed for the field in August, 1931. They have been there since with some interruptions of their work due to war and sickness. Dr. Bosler has done an outstanding piece of work in the Garkida Leper Colony. In 1948 they treated 1,625 patients in this colony. The work has grown since that time.

**EDITH GUMP BOSLER**

Edith Gump was born to Brother and Sister Charles O. Gump on July 30, 1904, in Churubusco, not many miles from the home of her future husband. Her elementary schooling was secured at a little one-room school, a mile through the woods from her home. She graduated from the Churubusco High School and spent several years teaching and



going to Manchester. She had known Howard Bosler for some time but the romance developed under the oaks of Manchester. They were married at her home June 12, 1926. In order to help her husband complete his medical work she returned home and taught school a year before they went to Africa in 1931. Her life is the beautiful flowering of a rich heritage. Her great-grandfather, Jeremiah, her father, Charles, and her brother, Arlo, are all ministers. She, indeed, is the product of a fine Christian nurture. As stated in the sketch of Dr. Bosler, their service has been interrupted but we hope that soon they may resume their work in Africa.



**Betty Rogers Blickenstaff**

Ella Elizabeth Rogers, better known as Betty, was born to Charles William and Ina Lorena Rees Rogers, December 2, 1913, in Converse, Indiana. Part of her girlhood days were spent in southern Ohio but the family moved back to Indiana. She completed her high school course at her new home, Lynn, and did an extra year of mostly commercial courses and acted as secretary in the school office.

Betty Rogers entered Manchester College in 1932 and enrolled in the two-year elementary teachers course. Here she lived in the homes of Lillian Grisso and Brother and Sister Adam Ebey, all India missionaries. No doubt these contacts had much to do with her decision to prepare for mission work. While in the college she met Leonard Blickenstaff, son of Lynn and Mary Blickenstaff, India missionaries.

After leaving Manchester she taught school and then took her training in the School for Nurses, Ball Memorial Hospital, Muncie. On July 2, 1939, she was married to Leonard Blickenstaff who was completing his medical training at Indiana University Medical School. They sailed for India January 22, 1940. During a



furlough, 1948-9, Betty finished her college course at Manchester. Shortly thereafter they returned to their field of service in India where they are engaged in their great ministry of healing. Her mother passed away on August 16, 1951, while Betty and her family were in India.

#### **ANNA M. WARSTLER**

The seventh child of a family of thirteen, Anna Margaret Warstler was born to Charles E. and Nancy Holsinger Warstler in Goshen, Indiana, January 14, 1902. She was baptized at fourteen and always showed an intense interest in the work of the church. She graduated from Goshen High School in 1920. During the next ten years she taught school and attended Manchester, receiving her B. S. degree in 1930. For two years of this period she had taught Bible in



**Anna Warstler**

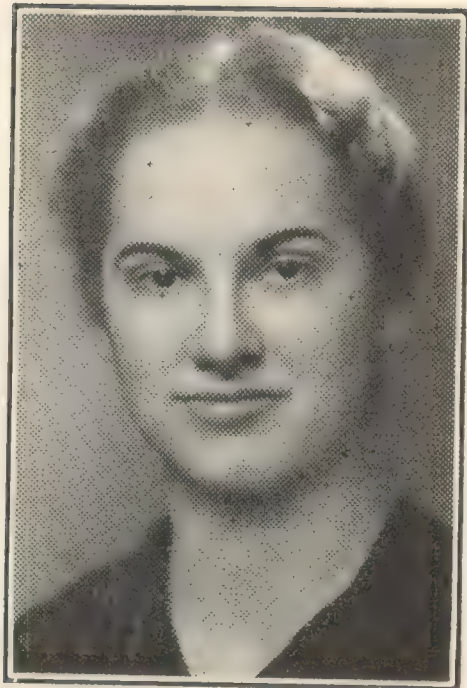
public schools scattered around Goshen. Her church activities were numerous, including interdenominational educational work.

She sailed for India in September, 1931 and is now serving her third term there. Her work is very largely educational, for which she had an excellent background before going to India.

#### **JOSEPHINE KEEVER FLORY**

Josephine Keever was the third in a family of four daughters and was born to Rudolph G. and Mae Dilling Keever, Monticello, Indiana, on May 5, 1914. Her father was a teacher and they lived in several Indiana communities, sometimes away from Brethren Churches. She was always active in the local church wherever she lived and was baptized at the Monticello church by Charles R. Oberlin, July 7, 1929. The occasion was a series of meetings by Brother Moyne Landis. She grad-





**Josephine Keever Flory**

uated from the Urbana High School in 1932 and two years later entered Manchester College, a few miles from her home. She worked her way through college, largely, and graduated in 1938. An active member in the Manchester church, she held several positions of responsibility. On June 2, 1940, in the Manchester Church she was married to Rolland C. Flory, of Grants Pass, Oregon, also a Manchester graduate.

Rolland and Josephine sailed for China in September, 1940. They were in the Philippine Islands at the time of Pearl Harbor, were captured and interned by the Japanese, suffering much hardship. After their release, they determined to go to China, sailing in January, 1948. Again they were the victims of war and were forced to return to the United States. They will take six months of language training in Costa Rica and then go to our mission in Ecuador.



**Velma Ober**

Born on a farm northwest of Garrett, February 13, 1903, Mary Velma Ober is the daughter of Lincoln and Essie Coconower Ober.



Except for the first two years of her life, and the next two (spent in Pennsylvania) her home has been near Corunna and her church the Cedar Lake congregation where she joined at the age of nine. Soon after Dr. V. F. Schwalm, then a teacher in Manchester College, made an appeal for young people to consecrate themselves to mission service, Velma responded in her heart and directed her life toward this goal. She, after graduation from high school at Garrett, entered Manchester College in 1922 and was in and out, teaching and going to school till her graduation in 1930. In all, she spent twelve and a half years in teaching before her opportunity to go to China came in 1936. Wherever she was located in these years she was actively promoting the work of the Kingdom. Her work in China was terminated by the war in Korea. She is now back in Indiana, but will soon sail for Africa to continue missionary service.

### **CLAUDE WOLFE**

The day before the Armistice of November 11, 1918, a son arrived in the home of Walter and Ada Jenkins Wolfe of Bunker Hill, Indiana. He was the fifth son of a family of six boys. His grandfather and great-grandfather were ministers in the Church of the Brethren.

In 1936 Claude graduated from high school where he had shown considerable talent as an athlete. He entered Manchester in the fall where he took a course in preparation for teaching and coaching. He was an outstanding basketball star and a baseball player. He successfully taught and coached at Converse, Indiana after graduating from college in 1940. In 1941 he was married to June Heestand of Ohio, grand-daughter of Elder A. I. Heestand, an outstanding preacher. The next year, 1942, they entered Bethany Seminary. In the meanwhile he had served as Superintendent of the Sunday School in his home church and felt the call to the ministry. He was licensed in 1941. Later he was ordained to the ministry. After graduating from Bethany in 1945, the Wolfes went to Ecuador, being located in Quito where he did Boys' Club work. They returned and spent a year in the Castaner project in Puerto Rico. By this time the Brethren decided to do mission work in Ecuador and the Wolfes returned in 1948 where they remained till 1951. He is now Athletic Director of Manchester College.

### **RUBY FRANTZ RHOADES**

Although born in Kansas, Ruby Frantz grew up at North Manchester where her father moved some time after the death of her mother. She was born to Ira H. and Hattie Sellers Frantz at Beattie, Kansas, June 1, 1923. Her father was then pastor of the Richland Center church. After her mother died she lived with several friends and relatives. Sometime after the father had re-established his home with the



children, they moved to North Manchester. She was then eleven. Two years later, 1936, a new mother came into the home, Alta Williams, a trained nurse who became Ruby's confidante and counselor.

Ruby completed both her high school work and her college work while living within sight of the college. She showed marked ability as a writer and speaker. She won a peace oratorical contest on her oration, *A Bag of Beans*, later printed and used in declamation contests. She did social service and teaching in the hill country of Kentucky. On Thanksgiving Day, 1943, she was married to J. Benton Rhoades. They entered Bethany after spending another year of service in Kentucky. In 1946 they went to Ecuador, opening up a new field of service at Calderon, fifteen miles north of Quito. They are in their second term of service in this field.



**Homer L. Burke**



**Marguerite Burke**



**Cecil Burke**



**Eldon Burke**

Albert and Lucy Mae Burke lived on a farm in Marshall County, Indiana, and were members of the Pine Creek congregation. Brother Burke was a deacon and Sunday-school teacher. Into this home Homer was born July 15, 1896. He attended the grade school and high school (Tyner), graduating in 1914. He took a summer training at Winona Normal and began to teach. After two years of teaching, he entered Manchester College in 1916 where he studied two years. These were important years in the formation of friendships and visions of service. He had united with the church at Pine Creek in 1912.

In 1918 Homer entered Northwestern Medical School in Chicago. Here he was instrumental in forming a group of medical mission volunteers whose fellowship was a great source of mutual help. He attended several conferences which helped deepen his purpose. He also taught a class at one of the Brethren missions in the city. In 1920 he was called to the ministry by the Center Church in Northern Indiana,



then his home congregation. On January 1, 1923, he was married to Marguerite Schrock, who had been in nurses' training at Cook County Hospital.

The Burkes spent fifteen years of great usefulness on the African field, 1923-1938. Dr. and Mrs. Burke not only rendered a great medical service but they helped in the teaching of the Bible to the people. They even took out time to do some translating. Due to Marguerite's health they returned to America and the doctor practiced at Bremen. They are now in Puerto Rico, working in our hospital there.

### **MARGUERITE SCHROCK BURKE**

The subject of this little sketch was born on September 21, 1898, in Elkhart County, Indiana, to Brother J. Harvey and Edith Gephart Schrock. She was the oldest of a family of thirteen children. At twelve she was baptized near the Pleasant Valley Church. As a child she often spoke of becoming a missionary.

She attended the elementary and high schools of her community and then entered Manchester College, 1915. She spent a year in Manchester. Three years later, 1919, she entered Nurses' Training at Cook County Hospital, Chicago. While in training at the hospital, seeing the physical and spiritual needs of people, she felt a definite call to a life of service.

While in training in Chicago she met Homer L. Burke, also in training. They were married January 1, 1923. That same year they sailed for Africa. They were among the pioneer workers in our field in Africa. Marguerite had considerable health difficulties and they were finally forced to change their field of labor.

### **EVELYN EVANGELINE FRANK**

Born in 1910, to Herman and Amelia Fox Frank at Portland, Evelyn united with the church at Sugar Ridge, Michigan, 1921, along with her father, mother, and sister. She graduated from the Portland High School in 1928 and spent the next year in Manchester College. She spent several years at home till she entered Nurses' Training at Bethany Hospital in 1933. She graduated in 1936. After further preparation and some experience as a public health nurse, she went to the African mission field in 1938. She had dreamed of this kind of service since she had come into the church at eleven.

In Africa Evelyn entered into her work with all her heart and was rendering a great service to the needy people. It was discovered that she had contracted tuberculosis and would have to give up her work. She returned early in 1940. For eight years she struggled to regain her health at sanitoriums and elsewhere but to no avail. She passed away at her home July 26, 1948. This untimely departure of one so highly



trained and so deeply consecrated is a challenge for others to step into the place which she has had to give up.

### MISSION ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

The following from Indiana served on the board that at any given time was responsible for missions, five different names of boards having been used since 1880.

Joseph Leedy, 1880-1883

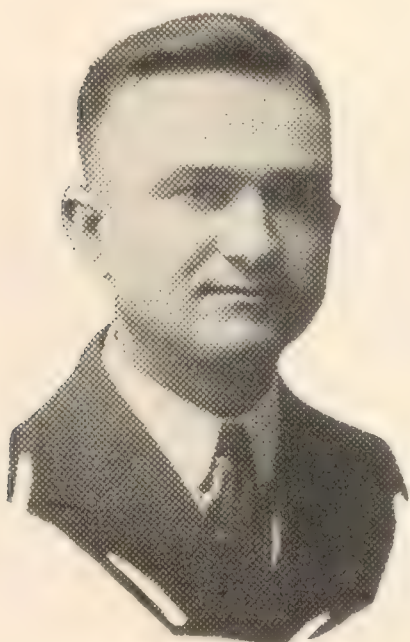
Lewis W. Teeter, 1897-1910

Otho Winger, 1911-1942

V. F. Schwalm, 1945-1948

Stanley Bittinger, 1949-1951

E. Paul Weaver, 1951-



**Clyde Culp**



**Edwin Grossnickle**

Since 1920 an Indiana man has been the guardian of Brethren Funds at Elgin. The first of the two treasurers was Clyde Culp, born in 1890. He took a degree in accounting at Manchester in 1913, taught and worked in a bank till 1919, and then spent a year as bookkeeper in the Elgin office. In 1920 he became treasurer and was forced to retire in 1943 because of health. He has been living in St. Petersburg, Florida. His early home was at Nappanee.

He was succeeded by a promising young member of the faculty at Manchester College, Edwin Grossnickle. Born in 1913, at North Manchester to Gorman and Lena Grossnickle, he was educated at Manchester College, the University of Iowa, and Ohio State University. He taught economics at Manchester College, 1938-40, and two terms, 1942-3, after he had taught in the local Chester High School, 1935-1938. Within about a half year after he became Assistant Treasurer, Bro. Culp had to retire and Brother Grossnickle has been treasurer since November, 1943. His wife was Fern Dilling, of Pleasant Dale.



As young people, both were very actively interested in the church. Brother Grossnickle had practically worked out a Ph. D. degree in Economics at Ohio State University when he was diverted from his research by taking the place at Elgin. Both he and Bro. Culp have been very efficient treasurers.



## CHAPTER VI

### MANCHESTER COLLEGE

For many years there was little sentiment among the Brethren in Indiana for higher education. There had been some talk of a College at Andrews under the leadership of Elder Samuel Murray, which never materialized. There was a small college in existence at Bourbon, Indiana, called Salem College, about 1870, which soon came to naught. Later educational sentiment was promoted by L. T. Holsinger who raised some money for a college which presumably was to be located at Ladoga, Indiana.

The first successful effort at establishing a college was at North Manchester, Indiana. What later came to be Manchester College had its beginnings at Roanoke, Indiana, under the auspices of the United Brethren Church. Because of inadequate facilities and an unpromising outlook at Roanoke, the College was moved to North Manchester in 1889. Several towns competed for the college, including Elkhart, Kendallville, Churubusco, and Columbia City. The town of North Manchester having raised the required funds got the College. The cornerstone was laid on August 1, 1889 and College work began in November.



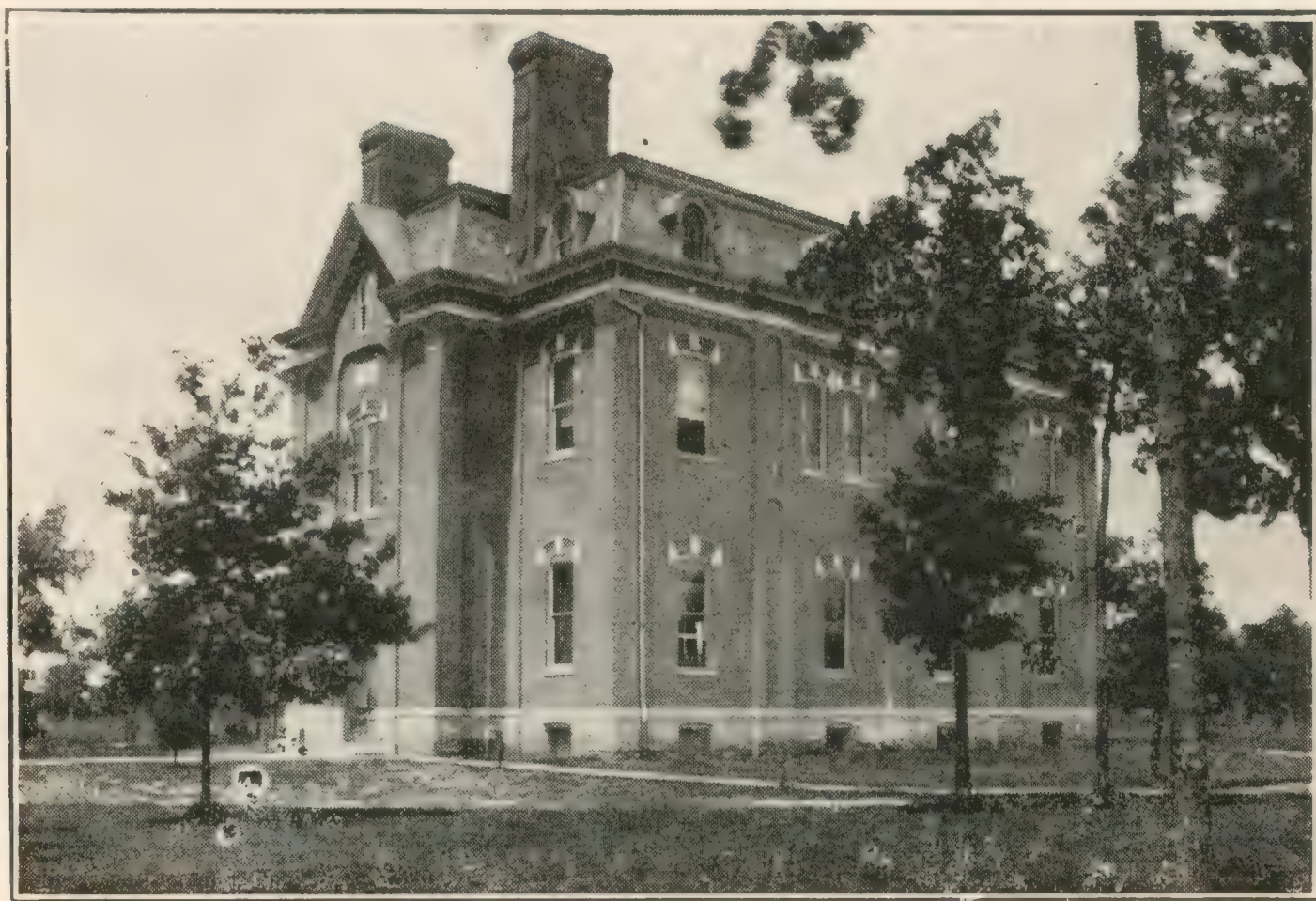
**Bumgerdner Hall, 1889**

D. M. Howe was President for five years and built the first building and literally carved a place for it out of the forest. After five years, difficulties arose and Dr. Howe resigned. After another year the United Brethren were ready to dispose of the College.



At the same time a committee of Brethren were looking for a favorable place to establish a college. The locating committee which had been authorized by Annual Conference consisted of E. S. Young and S. S. Young of Mt. Morris, Illinois, L. T. Holsinger of Ladoga, Indiana, L. H. Eby of Summerville, Kansas, and D. Hollinger of Pittsburg, Ohio. In the spring of 1895 they met a committee of the town of North Manchester. The town agreed to turn over the College property and \$5,000.00 in cash if the Brethren would raise \$5,000.00 and invest in the College. The town committee bought a farm and sold it out in lots to raise money for the college. The money was soon raised and the college, consisting of one building and ten acres of campus, was turned over to the Brethren.

The purposes of the College were said to be "to promote the interests of education in general and especially among the children of German Baptist Brethren. The object of the Bible School is to promote Biblical instruction particularly on the denominational line of the German Baptist Church."

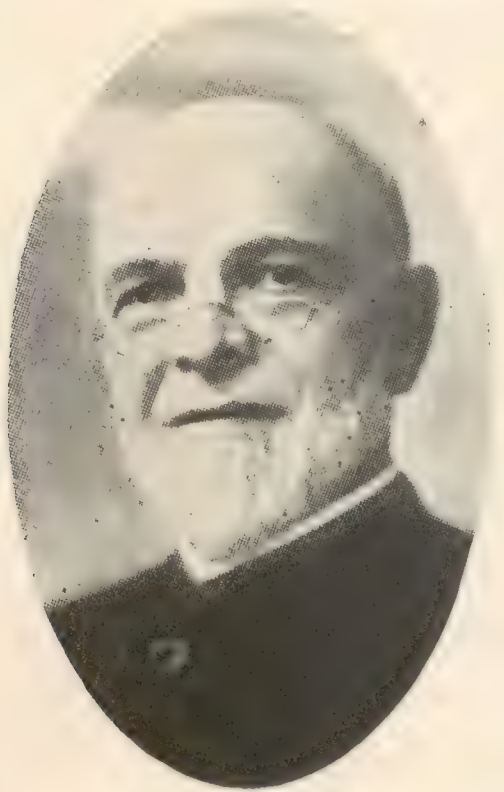


**The Bible School, 1895**

The trustees were to be "Brethren." The first Board consisted of L. T. Holsinger, S. S. Young, G. B. Heeter, E. S. Young, David Hollinger, L. H. Eby and G. L. Shoemaker. E. S. Young was to be President of the College.

They operated the college in the name of the church and took full responsibility for financing the school, but provided that the church could assume control of the college whenever it chose. During these





**E. S. Young**



**E. M. Crouch**

years from 1895 to 1902 the church took no responsibility for financing the school and many of the trustees sacrificed heroically to keep it alive.

The first faculty consisted of President E. S. Young, A. B. Ulrey, Science; H. W. Ward, Language; E. M. Crouch, Mathematics and English; W. H. Oyler, Commercial and Business Course; Margaret Bixler, Music; and Millard Myers, Elocution; H. J. Beachley, Shorthand and Penmanship.

One of the truths which our generation has learned but which was not so well understood fifty years ago, is that a college is not self-supporting. While the church gave some funds for the maintenance of the college during the period from 1895 to 1902 it was not enough to keep the school from running hopelessly in debt.

This became evident in 1901. It was then that Elder I. D. Parker from Goshen, Indiana, offered to turn his share of the college over to the church if the church would take it, and he was sure the other trustees would do the same. He then went to various District meetings of the church and asked if they would take over the college if it were turned over free of debt. The Northwestern Ohio, Southern Illinois, Northern Indiana, Middle Indiana and Southern Ohio districts of the Church of the Brethren agreed to do this.

I. D. Parker, assisted by Otho Winger and others, then went out and raised \$27,000 to free the college from debt and on May 6, 1902, the college was turned over to trustees who had been elected by the church. They then entered into articles of agreement to operate the college themselves, but leased it to a group of men who operated it. It seems the buildings and equipment were put at the disposal of these "Brethren" who then took the risk of operating the college and accepting whatever profit or loss resulted from the enterprise. This period of



lease extended from 1902 to 1910, during which time E. M. Crouch was president, L. D. Ikenberry was treasurer, I. B. Book was secretary and at intervals T. S. Moherman and M. M. Sherrick shared in the lease.

These men found it hard going, and at times had very little income to show for their efforts. Educational sentiment was but slight in the church and the financial support was meagre. Year after year they labored on, hoping that the next year would be better. Students were few at times, financial conditions were stringent and the outlook discouraging. Teachers taught at salaries that make present day teachers gasp for breath.

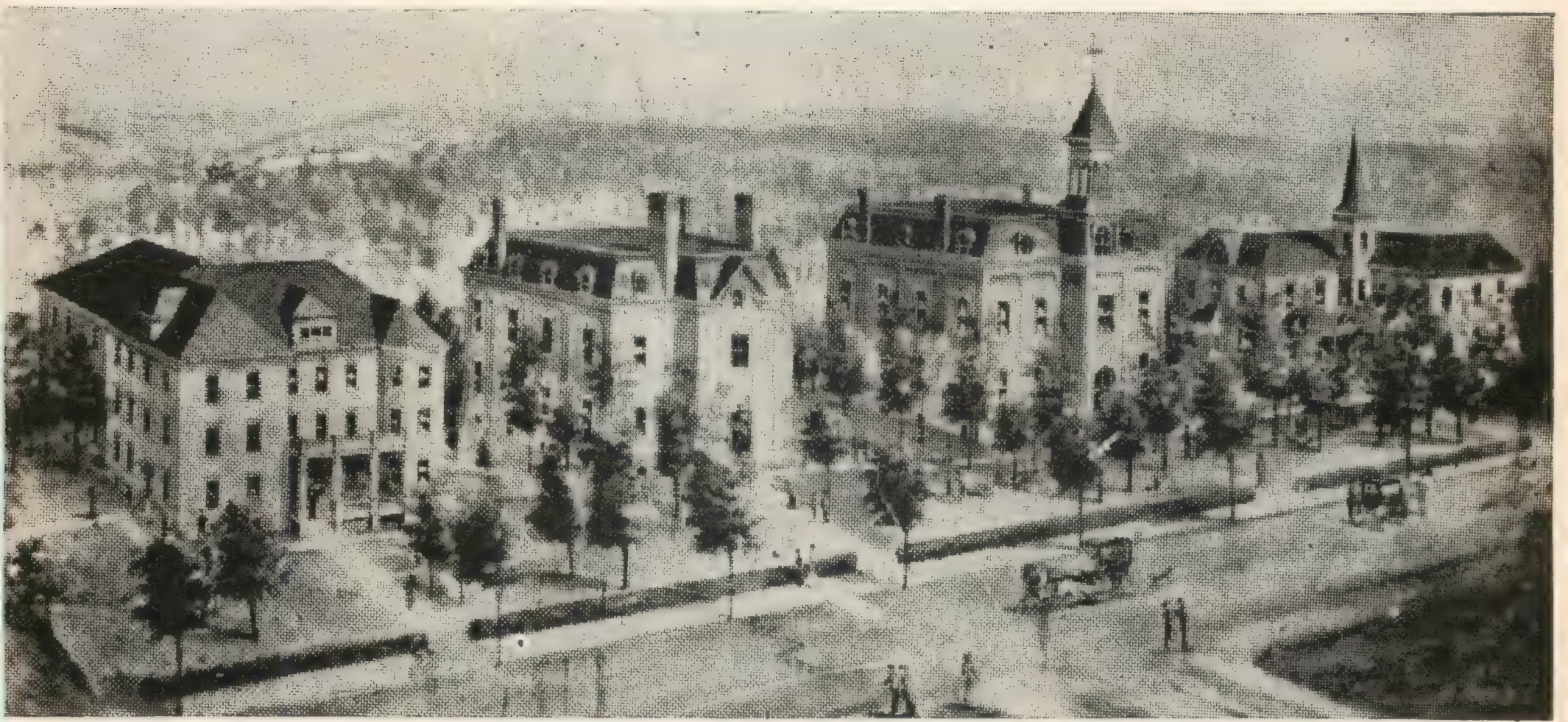
Despite these conditions some progress was made during this era. The Boys' Dormitory was erected, the college was accredited for teacher training in Indiana, practice teaching facilities were provided at the college and a summer Normal school was started.

But despite these achievements the income was insufficient to continue the plan for leasing the school and some change seemed inevitable. So on June 1, 1910, the school was turned over to the trustees who were to assume the general management and control of the institution. The new plan was presented to the church districts and, while some hesitated, a plan was devised by which teachers' contracts should become void if not paid within thirty days. This plan is said to have been presented by Otho Winger. In after years President Winger often referred to this ingenious idea by which the college could operate without fear of debt.

The trustees of the college now took direct control of the college. They elected the officers and employed the teachers. In their name all the money was raised and all the property held. Since trustees were not educators, and were scattered afar, they elected an executive committee which was to operate the college in harmony with general policies outlined by said Board of Trustees. It is at this point, in 1910, that Otho Winger as vice-president becomes an active agent for the promotion of the college.

Up to this time Manchester was really not much of a college in the modern sense. Very few students who came to Manchester were of collegiate standing. Most of them were listed as Preparatory Students, Normal English (a teachers' preparatory course), Commerce, Elocution or Bible students. Only a very few ranked as college students. In 1898-99, the college had five Liberal Arts students, eighty-three Preparatory, thirty-one Business, thirteen Shorthand and Typewriting, twenty-four Music, twenty-four Bible and twenty-three School of Music students. In fact, Manchester College graduated only two students from the Collegiate department in 1900, none in 1901, one in 1902, one in 1903, none in 1907, one in 1908, one in 1909, one in 1910, none in 1911, three each in 1912 and 1913 and eight in 1914. From





**As Manchester College Appeared in 1907**

that time on college graduating classes grew rapidly.

The first building on the campus was Bumgerdner Hall built in 1889. The Bible School building was built in 1895 containing a chapel, offices, classrooms, a library room, and commercial hall. The girls dormitory and dining hall was erected in 1898. In 1906, the first Men's Dormitory was built. When Otho Winger became President in 1910 these four small buildings constituted the college plant. The library was housed in a small room in the Bible School building and could not have had more than a few thousand books. There were no intercollegiate contests and even no organized athletics.

The writer well remembers that when college opened in the fall of 1909 he, with some other students, and Dr. P. B. Fitzwater stood on the campus between the Bible School Building and Bumgerdner Hall, talking about enrollment possibilities. I think then only about sixty-five students had enrolled at the moment, whereupon Dr. Fitzwater expressed a concern as to whether we would have enough students to operate the college that year.

It was apparent that the method of leasing the college was not satisfactory. The church itself felt too little responsibility for the school. The lessees were carrying the load too largely themselves. It had become apparent that something needed to be done that would serve as a 'shot in the arm' if the institution was to survive. The outcome of this discussion was that the trustees took over the college and took responsibility for its operation.

A new organization seemed necessary. Some alumni and others





College Plant by 1920

felt that the new president should have a Ph. D. degree. So Dr. M. G. Brumbaugh, veteran Brethren educator, was consulted and he recommended Dr. E. C. Bixler, who had just taken his doctor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania. So we find in the minutes of the Board of Trustees for January, 1910, this item: "By ballot the following Executive Board was elected: President, E. C. Bixler; Vice President, Otho Winger; Secretary, L. D. Ikenberry." Dr. Bixler was 33 years of age when elected President of Manchester. He was a classical scholar having given much of his time to a study of the ancient languages. In his "Memories of Manchester," President Winger says, "By the close of the year both he and the trustees felt they wanted to make another change." So on January 10, 1911, the trustees elected Otho Winger, President; L. D. Ikenberry, Secretary-Treasurer. The trustees participating in this election were Frank Fisher, D. B. Garber Jacob Coppock, Manly Deeter, and G. A. Snyder.

Up to this time Manchester College had had several Presidents. E. S. Young was President from 1895-1899. Then H. P. Albaugh, a business man and a layman, was President for a year. Professor L. D. Ikenberry from Daleville, Virginia, was elected as chairman of the faculty for the school year, 1900-01. In 1901, Professor E. M. Crouch who had been on the faculty from its beginning was elected President



and continued until 1910. President Crouch was a strong teacher, at first of Mathematics and of English, but later he taught mostly Latin. He was a man of great personal dignity, and during his administration there was some strengthening of the institution but there was not sufficient popular support of the program to guarantee its future.

During this early part of the life of the College there are some whose contribution was invaluable. The Young brothers rendered a valuable early contribution as President and Treasurer in the beginning years of the College. One of the early science teachers of unusual ability was Professor A. B. Ulrey who had a large following in the earliest years of the College. Other early teachers whose memories linger with many were M. M. Sherrick who later returned to the college and rendered a valuable period of service; E. B. Hoff of Bethany fame; T. S. Moherman who still lives; W. I. T. Hoover, later at LaVerne as Dean. Marguerite Bixler, the first music teacher, still lives and her name will carry on in some of our hymns. One of the strong Bible teachers during President Crouch's administration was P. B. Fitzwater who has taught at Moody Bible Institute for many years.

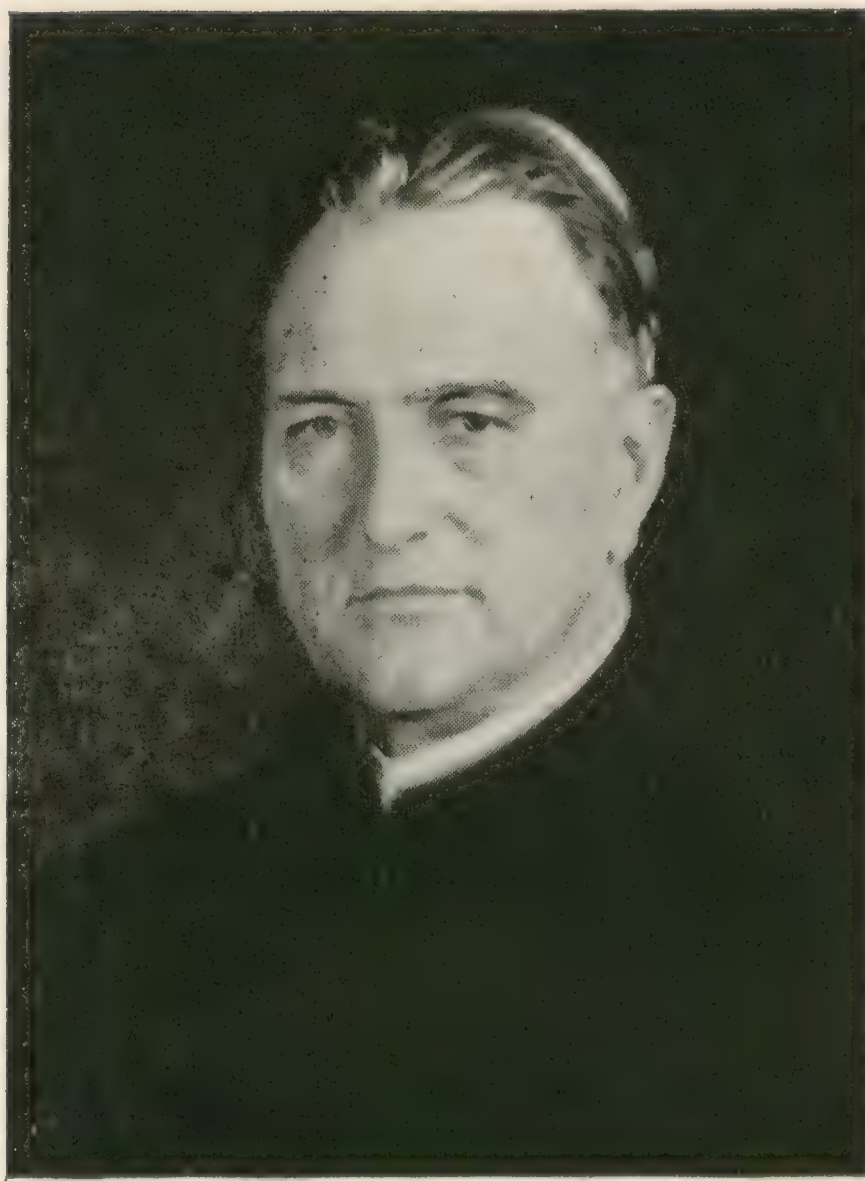
Two other names stand out in the first decade of this century: L. D. Ikenberry and I. B. Book. L. D. joined the faculty in 1901 and continued until about 1943, during most of which time he was Treasurer and Business Manager. He held these positions during the thirty years of Otho Winger's Presidency and built all the buildings then added to the campus. His service to Manchester College has been invaluable.

I. B. Book came to Manchester in 1900 from Pennsylvania and was one of the men who joined in leasing the College. He served as Secretary for some years. He rendered most valuable service to the College. His manly bearing and calm even spirit won the admiration of all. His kindness to needy students was unusual!

During these early years of the College, the Bible Society, and Literary Societies played an important part in the life of the college. In fact they took the place, in part, that our intercollegiate program now takes. In the first two decades of the College especially, the Bible Society provided opportunity for ministers and missionary candidates who had much opportunity for participating in programs of music, orations, essays and debates. These meetings were usually held on Friday evening and drew good audiences. On Saturday evening, the Lincoln and Adelpian Literary Societies, which met in adjoining halls, provided most interesting programs and social occasions and fulfilled in part, the functions now filled in some institutions by fraternities and sororities. There was much competition between literary societies for membership and for public audiences at their programs. An occasional banquet or social affair added to the spirit of the literary societies!

Otho Winger was elected President of Manchester College in Jan-





**Otho Winger, President, 1911-1941**

uary of 1911. He was then 33 years of age. Before entering college, he had taught three years at Indian Village, Grant County, a one-room school made up mostly of Indian children. From 1898 to 1902 he attended Manchester completing his high school work and some college work. From 1902 to 1907 he was in Indiana University at intervals but also served as High School Principal at Sweetzer, Indiana, two winters, and was Superintendent of Schools at Hope, Indiana, for two winters. During these years he managed to earn both an A. B. and an A. M. degree from Indiana University.

When elected President of Manchester College, Otho Winger was a strong, energetic young man of great vigor and boundless energy. He seemed to have a clear idea of what he wanted to make of Manchester College, and set about at once to bring it to pass. He gave himself to the building of a college with all the vigor of his marvelous personality. No man ever gave himself to his task with greater self-abandonment and devotion. No task seemed too hard, no duty too exacting, no burden too heavy. His dedication to his work was the marvel of his friends and the college began to grow, and, as it grew, it seemed to become the fulfillment of his dreams.

It is a fact that the period of his Presidency coincided with a period of great educational growth and sentiment in the country at large, a



period when college attendance greatly increased throughout the United States. But it is also true that many smaller colleges declined or were static during this same period. It seems evident that the growth at Manchester was in no small part due to the vigor of his administration. Soon after his election to the Presidency things began to happen at the college. Field men were employed, buildings were remodeled and improved, additional lots were purchased, new buildings were erected, a demonstration school was set up on the campus and a spirit of progress pervaded the campus.

As indicated above when Otho Winger became President there were four main buildings on the campus. The first built had been Bumgerdner Hall, then the Bible School Building, the Ladies' Dormitory, and the Men's Dormitory. The first building erected in his Presidency was a frame gymnasium built in 1911. The money was largely raised among students and faculty, and the students did most of the work. It served the immediate needs for athletic events and has since been put into use as a Biology Building.

A central heating plant was erected in the summer of 1913. It was modern and well-constructed with two boilers to heat the entire plant. In the summer of 1915, a greenhouse was constructed for the use of the Biology department, a gift from the class of 1914.

In 1915 the college also constructed what was at first known as a Science Hall, a four-story brick building 50 x 75' which has since been converted to a library and class room building; an addition was built to it later to make room for library stacks. At about the same time the Ladies Home was enlarged practically doubling its capacity.

During the school year, 1918-19 an anonymous gift came to the College for the purchase of a large house one block south of the main campus to be used as a College Hospital. This building still serves this purpose, and is also used as a practice house for the Home Economics department. In 1922, a Chemistry building, the gift of the Goshorn brothers, of Ladoga, was erected. It was later enlarged and has served to train many chemists who are now famous for their researches.

During the summer of 1920, the College built a large addition to the Administration building, uniting the old Bible School Building and Bumgerdner Hall, thus making one large administration building in which are housed administrative offices, the Chapel, classrooms, the bookstore, the postoffice and other useful facilities.

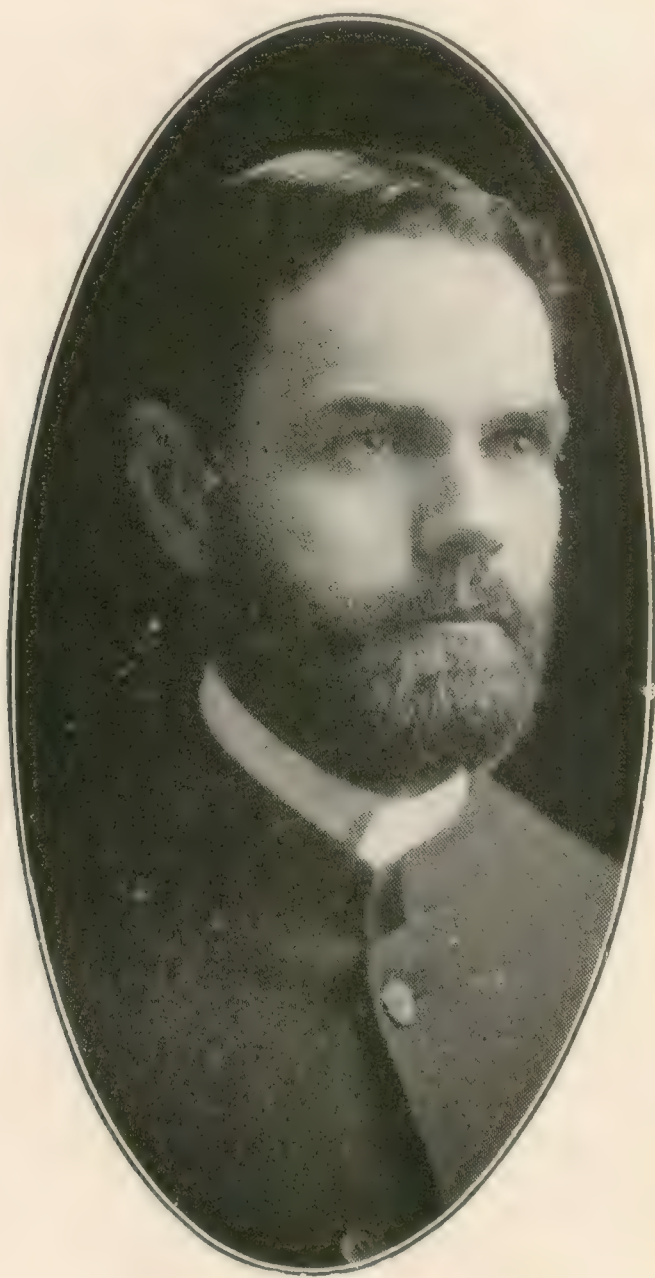
In 1926, funds were raised among alumni and friends of the College to erect a new gymnasium. Plans finally resulted in building a combination gymnasium-auditorium under the direction of Professor L. D. Ikenberry. This contains a full size basketball floor, an auditorium seating 1700 people, dressing rooms and showers. This is a most useful building, and was built for \$65,000.00, about half the cost it would



have required by commercial builders. Also in 1926, the girls' dormitory was again enlarged and improved. It now could comfortably house more than 200 girls. It contained a large kitchen, storerooms, two dining halls, and a social room.

In 1938, President Winger and his associates erected a girls' gymnasium to provide for the girls' physical education program and for roller skating activities. In the summer of 1940, the heating plant was enlarged and a new boiler was installed.

By the time Otho Winger's Presidency came to an end the college had at least ten buildings, a few of them very large and quite substantial, in place of the four small buildings existing at the time of his election.



**L. D. Ikenberry**

The building program of the college was made possible by L. D. Ikenberry, the Treasurer and Business Manager, who was also a practical builder. Without benefit of a professional architect or of building contractors and with but small amounts of money, he drew the plans, employed the labor and supervised the construction of all the buildings erected during his period as Business Manager from about 1901 to 1943, when he retired. Without his unique ability it would have been impossible to erect the buildings needed. Although plain and cheaply





**Manchester College, 1930**

constructed, they nevertheless served their purpose for the time being. His wisdom in the management of the finances, and his ability as a builder have made him the complement of President Winger who envisaged the goal and secured the money while Professor Ikenberry brought dreams into reality in the form of buildings.

The faculty of Manchester when Otho Winger became President was small and not very highly trained; albeit, they were good teachers. Up to that time there were but few college students to teach, so advanced training for the faculty did not seem so important. Upon becoming President, he went out into the high schools and found former students who had not completed their college work, and persuaded them to teach in the Academy while completing their college work, thus providing a cheap teaching faculty and at the same time giving these men opportunity to continue their study. Those brought in under this plan were Edward Kintner, Herbert A. Studebaker, W. W. Peters, Lawrence Shultz, V. F. Schwalm, and perhaps others. Later he gave financial assistance to some of these while they completed their advanced courses in the University. Most of these men gave many valuable years of service to the College.

President Winger soon strengthened the faculty by bringing in additional strong teachers. Among these were such as John Martin in Science, M. L. Sandifur in Education, Julie Willkie in English and German. Many were brought to the faculty from among the alumni, others were added to the faculty from without. It will be impossible to give even the names of all of these. Of those who remained with the College for a number of years, and became active leaders in the faculty, one would need to include the following:

Edward Kintner, Professor of Science  
Sadie Wampler, Dramatics and Speech



L. W. Shultz, Principal of the Academy, Librarian  
 V. F. Schwalm, Professor of History, Dean, President  
 A. R. Eikenberry, Professor of Agriculture, of Psychology, Dean  
 of Men  
 D. C. Reber, Professor of Latin and Greek  
 J. R. Schutz, Professor of Sociology, Public Speaker  
 Carl W. Holl, Professor of Chemistry, Dean  
 J. E. Dotterer, Professor Mathematics  
 C. S. Morris, Professor of Physics  
 O. S. Hamer, Professor of Education  
 S. L. Fleuckiger, Professor of Music  
 F. E. Reed, Professor of French and Spanish  
 Nettie Leasure, Elementary Education  
 Max Allen, Art  
 Alice Doner, Education, Dean of Women  
 O. W. Neher, Biology  
 Irma Dare, Home Economics  
 Don Martin, Assistant Professor of Chemistry  
 Harry Weimer, Professor of Chemistry  
 Fred Conkling, Professor of English  
 L. M. Hoff, Professor of English  
 R. H. Miller, Professor of Religion and Philosophy  
 A. W. Cordier, Professor of History, Lecturer, Traveller  
 C. Ray Keim, Professor of History  
 Paul Halladay, Professor of Music  
 Murl Barnhart, Associate Professor of Piano  
 Martina DeJong, Associate Professor of Piano  
 J. G. Meyer, Dean of Education  
 W. W. Peters, Dean of Education  
 M. Irene Johnson, Elementary Education  
 Agnes Kessler, Elementary Education  
 R. C. Wenger, Bible Department  
 D. W. Boyer, Vocal Music

For a long time, Manchester College remained more of a Bible School, Academy and Commercial School than a college. As indicated above not many of its students had had high school or preparatory school. Up to 1912 the college had never graduated more than one or two college students in a year. Beginning with that year there were three college graduates, in 1913 again there were three, in 1914 there were eight, in 1915 and in 1916 there were 21 each year. After that they began to increase rapidly until by 1920 there were 31; by 1925 there were 66; by 1930 there were 154; by 1935 there were 100; in 1940 there were 171, in 1945 due to the war there were only 61, but by 1950 there were 230. College enrollment grew rapidly as the following



tables reveal. In 1912-13, total enrollment was 328, by 1915-16 it was 488, by 1920-21 it was 830; by 1925-26, 1045; by 1930-31 it was 1067; by 1935-36, 946; in 1940-41, 889; in 1945-46, 734; in 1949-50, it was 1024.

College enrollments increased as follows:

1900-01—	4	1930-31—	611
1905-06—	8	1935-36—	636
1910-11—	24	1940-41—	638
1915-16—	153	1945-46—	470
1920-21—	341	1949-50—	804
1925-26—	631		

The Academy Department began to wane in size about the time when High Schools became popular in all parts of the country; namely, during the first and second decades of the century. In 1920, there were still about 120 students in the Academy, the next year the enrollment dwindled to about 80 and the next year to 40. In 1923, it was decided to close the Academy. From then on Manchester was chiefly a Liberal Arts College.

Other divisions such as the Bible School and the Commercial Department became departments of the College. Nearly every student now was a high school graduate and most were pursuing a four-year college course leading to a degree. Although until the late 30's many took a two years teachers course and then dropped out to teach for a time, a large number later returned to the College to complete their work for degrees. Often they did their work chiefly in the summer school.

For a long time Manchester was accredited only by the State Department of Education in Indiana and surrounding states and at the State University of Indiana. Standards for accreditation were steadily rising during the second and third decades of the century. The College constantly needed to meet higher standards in the training of its faculty, in endowment, in library, and so forth.

Not until 1932 did President Winger see fit to make application for admission to the North Central Association of Colleges, the accrediting agency for this region. He made his plans carefully and after an inspection by Dr. Arthur Kline of Ohio State University and Dr. Walter A. Payne of the University of Chicago, the college was given conditional accreditation in that year and complete accreditation soon thereafter. There was much rejoicing among faculty, students, and especially among the alumni at this achievement.

From early years Manchester College has been a teacher-training institution. The service ideal strongly held by the Brethren and so fully exemplified in the person of President Winger found expression



by its alumni in the teaching profession. Furthermore, Manchester was well located in an area in Indiana where there was a clear field for finding students, and for placing teachers. More than half the teachers of some of the surrounding counties have attended Manchester College.

The College for a while provided a practice school on the campus, and later maintained a splendid program of practice teaching in the city schools, in Wabash City, in Chester Township, and other surrounding schools. The college has offered both elementary and high school training and usually from 60 to 75% of its graduates have gone into teaching.

The Department of Education and Psychology is the largest in the college. For a long time the head of the department was called Dean of Education. The Music Department has also been a large department, involving some half dozen teachers, and at times seven or eight, and hundreds of students for full or part-time. Out of the college have gone quite a number of students who have found their way into positions of trust and responsibility in public life: Dr. A. W. Cordier, into the state department at Washington, D. C. and into the high councils of the United Nations; Dr. J. Roy Blough, into the Treasury Department at Washington, and now as Economic Advisor to the President; Carman Blough, Budget Advisor, State of Wisconsin, Executive Director of Federal Securities and Exchange Commission, now Executive Director of the United States Association of Auditors; Murl Alexander, Assistant Director of Federal Prisons; Virgil Stinebaugh, Superintendent of Schools at Indianapolis for a time; Forbes Norris, Superintendent of Schools, Winchester, Massachusetts; W. W. Peters, Former Pres. of McPherson College; William Beahm, Dean of Bethany Seminary; Kermit Eby, Professor at the University of Chicago, lecturer, writer. Many others have won their way to positions of power and influence as teachers, and administrators, preachers and leaders.

From the Science Departments have gone many who have entered medicine, dentistry, optometry, and others have found their way into scientific research, or into administrative posts in industry. As a researcher Paul James Flory has won his way to fame; Roy Plunkett has become director of one of the great DuPont factories; Harold Pletcher for a time was Production Manager in the Ansco Film Corporation.

From all departments of the college have gone out young men and women in the various walks of life and have made their contribution to the public life of America and of the world, as homemakers, teachers, administrators, ministers, nurses, doctors, dentists, optometrists, missionaries, salesmen, merchants, manufacturers, and farmers.



The following list indicates the occupation of the alumni:

2153	Homemakers	20	Phys. Ed. Directors
1575	Teachers	17	Engineers
276	Supt., Deans, Prin's	15	Army
214	Ministers	14	Attorneys and Lawyers
179	Business	13	Salesmen
120	Farmers	12	Dentists
117	Other Professions	10	Relief Workers
111	College Teachers	9	Optometrists
77	Doctors	8	Editors and News Re-
64	Students in Graduate		porters
	School	7	College Administrators
59	Missionaries	6	Postoffice Workers
44	Nurses	5	Bookkeepers
44	Secretaries	4	College Presidents
39	Chemists	4	Physicists
39	Insurance	4	Radio Announcers
31	Public Officials	4	Statisticians
30	Accountants	2	F. B. I.
29	Social Workers	2	Printers
29	Librarians	1	Physical Therapist
21	Research	565	Vocations not known

Upon assuming the Presidency, Otho Winger found that only the church districts in Indiana, Northwestern and Southern Ohio were affiliated with the College. Northeastern Ohio and Michigan were not affiliated with any college. So President Winger invited them to appoint trustees to Manchester College and share in its control. He attended District Conference in both Districts in 1915 and persuaded them to elect trustees to Manchester College so that now it could claim for its territory all of Indiana, Ohio, and Michigan.

Mt. Morris College had rough going in the twenties, changed Presidents frequently, and occasionally talked of closing its doors. In 1932, one year after they had a large fire which destroyed its gymnasium, the College merged with Manchester College. Manchester College has the official records of Mt. Morris College; also, some of its equipment was purchased by Manchester. The assets in the form of endowment and annuity investments were equally divided between Manchester and McPherson Colleges. The territory was divided between the same two colleges, the Mississippi River becoming the dividing line. The geographic territory of Manchester College is now all the Old Northwest Territory, including the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Manchester owes much to Otho Winger for its splendid consolidated geographic area in the heart of America. It is at present



the second most populous college region in the Brotherhood and has a good middle class of citizens in its constituency.

Manchester has had its share of strong teachers. Only a few can be mentioned.

Edward Kintner graduated from Manchester in 1912. Before graduation he did some teaching for the college. After graduation he continued with the College until 1950, having taught nearly forty years. In his early years he taught nearly all the sciences at the College. Later as the College grew he surrendered to others one "chair" after another, leaving for himself only a part of one in the Biology department. Professor Kintner had seven sons and one daughter all but one of whom have graduated from the College. Among the boys, three are physicians, one is a dentist, two are optometrists, and another a medical student. The daughter is a housewife and has been an operator of a tea room. Professor Kintner's clear mind, his genial personality, and his calm gentle spirit have left a lasting imprint on the College.

Carl W. Holl graduated from Manchester College in 1916. He received his Ph. D. degree with honors at Ohio State University in 1923. He returned to Manchester as teacher in the department of chemistry the same year and still holds that position. In 1927 he was selected to succeed Dr. Schwalm as Dean and held that position for 23 years. He has trained many chemistry students both for medicine and for industry and has followed their careers with interest and helpfulness. He has been deeply devoted to the college and has given himself to his task unstintingly.

Professor A. R. Eikenberry came to Manchester College from Mt. Morris in 1919. He graduated from Mt. Morris in 1917, from the University of Illinois in 1918; he attended both Chicago and Columbia Universities and secured his M. A. from Ohio State University in 1930. Professor Eikenberry came to Manchester as Professor of Agriculture, but few students were interested in taking courses in Agriculture so he turned to Psychology and now teaches courses in Psychology and Mental Health. Professor Eikenberry was for a time a member of the town council; served for several years as Dean of Students; for a time as Acting Business Manager and Assistant Business Manager. He has been a most useful servant of the college and has learned to work graciously with others.

Professor J. Raymond Schutz also came to Manchester College to teach Sociology in 1919. He soon came to be a popular teacher. He was also a minister and served for about twenty years as pastor of the First Brethren Church of North Manchester. Soon after his arrival Professor Schutz began to do public speaking. He soon grew into great popularity until he was one of the most popular speakers in the state and even of surrounding states. He was active in Kiwanis Clubs and served



for a time as District Governor of Kiwanis and International Trustee of Kiwanis. He worked too hard, travelled too much, spoke too often. His health gave way and he died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage in his home, when but 54 years of age. Few men have spread the good name of the college as widely as has Professor Schutz. Mrs. Salena Schutz, his wife, has served as alumni secretary since his death and has carried on in a very gracious and efficient spirit.

Andrew W. Cordier was born near Hartville, Ohio, in 1901. After graduating from High School he taught for two years, then attended Manchester College for three years, graduating in 1922. He attended the University of Chicago, receiving both his M. A. and his Ph. D. degrees, the latter in 1926. He became a member of the History Department of the college in 1925 and its head in 1927. He remained a member of the faculty until 1944. During these years he had made a number of trips to Europe, spending one entire year at Geneva in research study and writing. While teaching at Manchester he soon showed great ability as a student on public affairs and made for himself a national reputation as a lecturer on both national and international problems. During this time he spoke frequently at forums on International Problems at the University of Denver and elsewhere under the direction of the United States Office of Education.

Dr. Cordier participated in all the conferences leading up to the formation of the United Nations and has since its formation been serving as Executive Assistant to the Secretary General, Trygve Lie. In this position he has given a good account of himself and has wielded great influence.

J. Oscar Winger, brother of Otho Winger, was connected with Manchester College for more than 20 years. He had graduated from the college in 1922. After teaching in the High Schools of Bluffton, and Muncie, Indiana, he came to Manchester as teacher in the commerce department in 1922. J. O. as he was affectionately called was an ordained minister and developed great power as a preacher and evangelist. He was a genial, friendly soul whose smile and warm handshake won friends wherever he went. President Winger soon discovered his strength in the field, and put him on the road to recruit students and make friends for the College. His visits to High Schools were warmly welcomed and called for when he did not appear. His friendly calls in the homes of older people were cherished as happy memories. He traveled or taught during the day and preached at night at long distances from the College for many years, but his great strength gave way and after an annoying illness he passed away on August 23, 1947, one year and ten days after Otho's death. His service to the College was enormous.

R. H. Miller graduated from the Manchester Academy in 1910,



and from the College in 1916. He was married to Maude Reiff immediately after graduation and went to California where he taught for a short time and was then called to the pastorates of the church in Los Angeles and later to the LaVerne Church. His power as a preacher soon led to his call to the pastorate of the Manchester Church. Here he preached with power and effectiveness to large audiences of local church people of students and faculty. In 1929 he resigned as pastor and began teaching Bible and Philosophy at the College—a position which he still holds. He has through all the years done much preaching in the churches of our region. He is frequently called to speak in churches of other denominations and for special occasions.

Lawrence Shultz graduated from Manchester in 1914, and took his Master's degree in Northwestern University in 1924. For a number of years he was Principal of the Academy, later he taught courses in Religious Education and for many years he was librarian at the College. He gave his summers for many years to the development of Camp Mack, and now spends most of his time as Manager of the Camp. Occasionally he directs tours to Europe in the fall.

C. Ray Keim graduated from Manchester College in 1918, received a Masters at the University of Chicago in 1924 and a Ph. D. in 1926. He joined the history faculty of Manchester College in 1927 and has since 1944 been head of the Department. Dr. Keim has been genuinely interested in the church and her program, and has devoted himself to her welfare. The cause of peace has deeply interested him and he has made valuable contributions in that field. He works hard and does substantial work in his classes.

C. S. Morris graduated from Manchester in 1913, received his M. A. from Ohio State in 1915 and his Ph. D. in 1930. He taught at Mt. Morris College for a short time, and for eight years at McPherson College. He joined the faculty at Manchester College in 1926 and has since then been head of the Physics department. Dr. Morris was for a while Dean of Men. He has been extremely interested in the religious life of the College and has made a substantial contribution in that field.

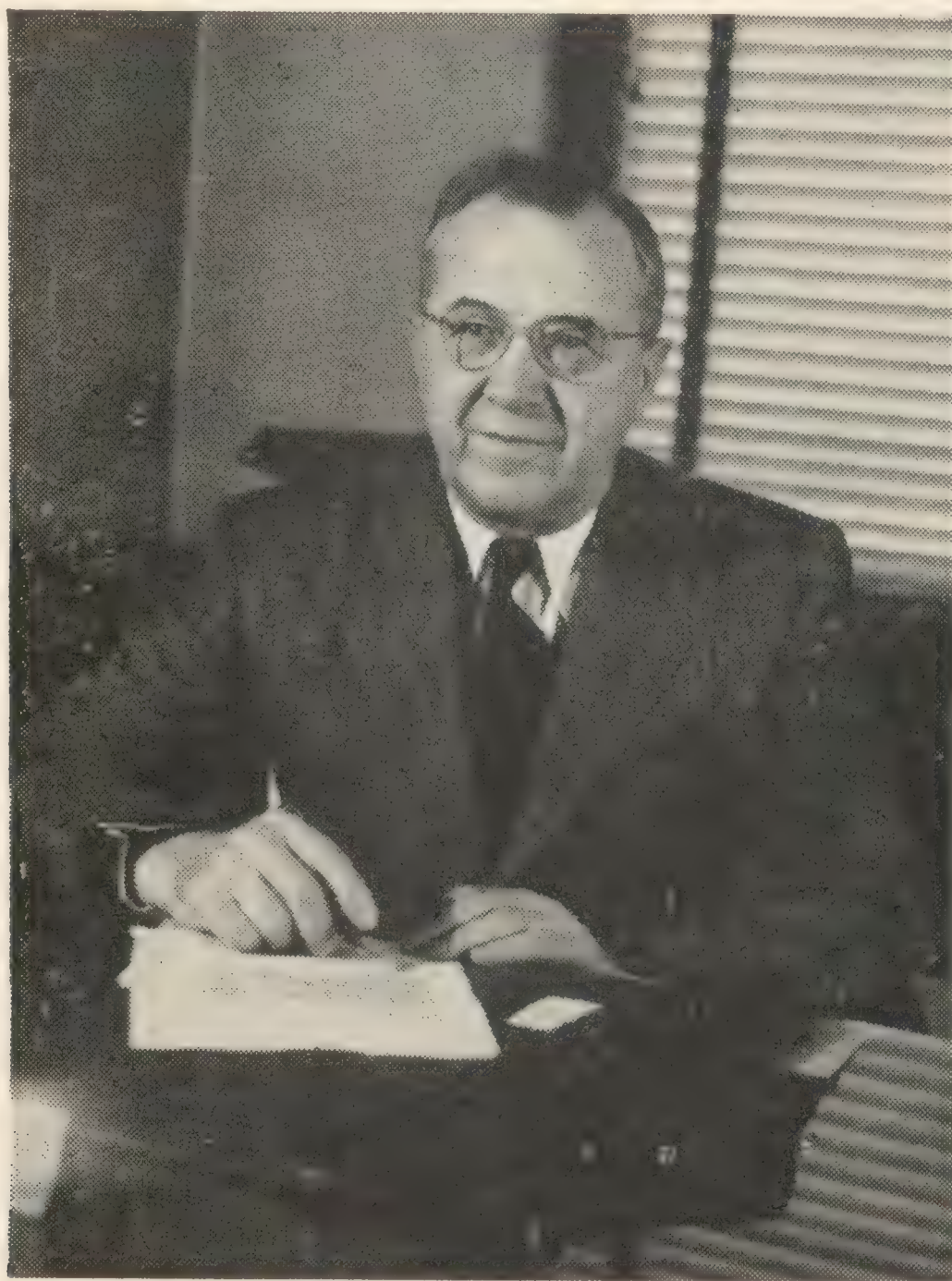
President Winger was preeminently a churchman; moreover, one who upheld the traditional doctrines and practices of the Church of the Brethren. He tried to keep the College in line with the spirit and program of the Church. He was active in District Conferences, in the Annual Conference, served on special Annual Conference committees, and was for more than 30 years a member of the General Mission Board of the Church. Between 1913 and 1934 he was elected Reading Clerk of the Annual Conference three times and Moderator six times.

Since he was so vitally connected with the Church and her program, and believed so thoroughly in the Christian cause he left a deep



and lasting impression on the whole life of the college, favorable to the church and the Christian way of life. As a result, Manchester College sent out a great many Christian workers, missionaries, ministers, Sunday School teachers, music leaders, and other Christian laymen. The College has attempted to serve the church.

The period of the Presidency of Otho Winger was a great era in the life of the college showing growth in every way, in numbers of students, in the strength of the faculty, in college buildings and equipment, in alumni, and in general influence. The College at the close of his era was annually enrolling more than a thousand students a year. It had a faculty of more than forty, and a plant of ten large buildings. Its territory had been enlarged and consolidated. It had become an accredited college in North Central circles. It was a well-established institution.



**President V. F. Schwalm**

Due to failing health, President Winger resigned as of September 1, 1941. Dr. V. F. Schwalm, formerly Dean of the College, and more recently President of McPherson College, was elected as his successor



on January 11, 1941. He assumed his duties in September and has continued until the present (1951).

Having worked with President Winger as teacher and Dean for 16 years, it was to be expected that many of the same policies would be followed which were in vogue under President Winger.

The draft in preparation for World War II was already operating when the new administration began. War actually broke out during the first year. The attendance which had averaged from 600 to 650 for some years previous to World War II now declined until at its lowest, in the spring of 1944, it was about 320. During war time enrollment of girls hovered around three hundred, while that of boys ran from 65 to 90, or slightly higher. It was a time of interest and of anxiety. The uncertainty was distracting; and the unbalance between sexes made social life difficult, to say the least.

Immediately after the war attendance surged upward. Manchester along with all other colleges had a great influx of about 275 veterans. There were also 65 men who came back from Civilian Public Service Camps. The attendance mounted to 865 in the fall of 1946, about 539 of these were men, and upwards of 325 were women.

Those who lived through the era will remember it as the era when students rushed college admission offices, when it required barracks, trailer camps, and quonset huts to house students. It was a period of surplus war property, of government grant, of cafeterias and other buildings. New faculty needed to be employed to instruct the great throngs of students.

Gradually the veterans declined and by now (1951) enrollments are normal again, and the sexes almost equal. It is the prophecy of educators that by 1957, with the incoming of those born during the higher birth rate—college enrollments will increase again.

Through the kindness of Uncle Sam, Manchester secured a very useful Cafeteria building, and equipment for it during the summer of 1946. This new unit has proved most useful for the College and is now in extensive use.

During the later years of war the College raised funds and erected a splendid new Men's Dormitory, at a cost of about \$300,000.00. It houses approximately 100 and compares favorably with the best of dormitories. Because Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ulrey gave so generously to this and many other causes about the College this dormitory was named Calvin Ulrey Hall.

During the year, 1950-51, the College added a \$30,000.00 addition to the Old Dormitory for men, thus providing new modern shower and lavatory equipment for the whole building. This project was initiated and partially financed by the Men's Work Organizations of the region.





WINGER MEMORIAL ARTS BUILDING  
MANCHESTER COLLEGE  
NORTH MANCHESTER, INDIANA  
WALTER SCHOLER & ASSOCIATES  
ARCHITECTS

### Winger Memorial Building

There is now under construction on the campus a new Arts Building which is to be designated as "The Winger Memorial Building." It is to house the Music, Art, and Home Economics departments of the College. When completed it will be one of the best, and most modern buildings on the campus, a worthy monument to a great President.

Several new teachers have been brought to the campus under President Schwalm's administration, some of whom have added great strength to the College.

Esther Ashley, Practice Teaching

Isabel Beery, Home Economics

R. V. Bollinger, Education and Dean of Students

Howard A. Book, director of Teacher Education

Paul S. Bowman, Field Secretary and Admissions Director

Cole Brembeck, Speech

Ruth Coblentz, Librarian

Maxine Domer, Registrar

Earl Garver, Professor of Economics, Dean of the College

Arthur Hoffman, German

Jean Holcombe, Assistant Librarian

Clyde Holsinger, Choral Music, Voice

Dorothy Johnson, Stenography

LaVernia Jorgensen, Women's Physical Education



Paul Keller, Head of Speech Department  
Orrel Little, English  
Ercell Lynn, Bible  
Neal Merritt, History  
Wayne Miller, Speech  
Gladdys Muir, History and Peace Studies  
F. Emerson Niswander, Biology  
Paul Noffsinger, Field Secretary for finances  
T. Wayne Rieman, Director of Religious Affairs  
Lola Sanger, Accountant  
Genita Speicher, Piano  
Vernon Stinebaugh, String Instruments  
Dale Strickler, Treasurer from 1944-50  
David Yeatter, Treasurer



**Russell V. Bollinger, Dean of Students**

Russell V. Bollinger graduated from Manchester College in 1926. He secured his Ph. D. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1939 majoring in Education. After teaching Public School for a number of years he accepted a position as Dean of Students at Ashland College. After seven years in that position he came to Manchester College as Dean of Students in 1946. Dr. Bollinger is a good thinker, a ready speaker and is a popular preacher and lecturer. He holds various posi-



tions in the District and Region, and was Assistant Moderator of Annual Conference in 1951.

Earl S. Garver whose early home was near Youngstown, Ohio, graduated from Manchester College in 1933. He taught at Youngstown for a while, then attended Yale University where he received his Ph. D. degree in 1943. Later he also attended Harvard University for a time. Dr. Garver came to Manchester College in 1946 as head of the Department of Business and Economics. He soon entered into the problems of the college in a very constructive way and won leadership among faculty, students, and the public. In 1950, upon the resignation of Dean Carl W. Holl, he was appointed Dean, which position he now holds with distinction.

T. Wayne Rieman, who holds his bachelor's degree from Juniata, his Master's from Penn State and his Bachelor of Divinity degree from Bethany Seminary, came to Manchester in 1948. He has been a student pastor and director of religious activities. As such he has deeply affected the lives of many students and has done much to improve the quality of the worship services in Chapel. Mr. Rieman is pursuing his studies for the Ph. D. degree at Garrett Biblical Institute.

Paul Keller graduated from Manchester College in 1935, and received his Master's from the University of Wisconsin in 1940. After serving in various other capacities he became assistant editor of the Gospel Messenger. From there he went to Penn State, to teach in the Speech Department in 1947. In 1948 he came to Manchester College and became acting head of the speech department in 1949 and head in 1950. He is now studying at Northwestern University for his Ph. D. degree.

Dr. Gladdys Muir is a late addition to the faculty. She graduated from McPherson College and received her M. A. from the University of California, studied later at Geneva, Switzerland, and at the University of Edinburgh. She received an honorary D. Litt. degree from McPherson College in 1941. Miss Muir came to Manchester College in 1948 to head the department of Peace Studies, where she has awakened an interest in the problem of peace, and inspired a desire for service in many young minds.

The number of trustees at the College has varied through the years from six to sixteen. For many years they were all elected by the Church Districts owning the College. At present there are fifteen elected trustees, besides the President who holds his office ex-officio. Nine of the trustees are elected by the nine districts of the region, four are nominated by the trustee body and confirmed by the districts, two are elected by the Alumni Association.

Some trustees have given long years of service to the Col-



lege. Some have been men of great influence. J. Edson Ulrey and G. A. Snider served a long time and also gave many years to the service of the College as field secretaries. George Strausbaugh has been on the Board since 1916, probably longer than any other member. T. A. Shively has served for 23 years. N. B. Wine has been Chairman of the Board for a long time.

Many Trustees have given valuable time, energy, and much thought to the work of the College. Some have served for long periods of time. The starred ones are the Trustees who have served for five years or more:

Aldredge, J. S.  
 Albaugh, H. P.  
 Anglemyer, Jesse\*  
 Barnhart, Wilbur S.\*  
 Blough, Robert\*  
 Bonsack, Charles  
 Bookwalter, L. A.  
 Bowers, Harvey  
 Bright, John C.\*  
 Brubaker, J. F.  
 Buck, O. D.\*  
 Burkett, Simon  
 Butler, Dwight  
 Coppock, Jacob\*  
 Crouch, E. M.  
 Culler, G. F.  
 Cunningham, Jacob\*  
 Deeter, Manly\*  
 Dresher, Edith  
 Eby, L. H.  
 Emrick, Leland  
 Fisher, Frank\*  
 Forror, Charles  
 Frederick, John  
 Garber, D. B.\*  
 George, T. E.  
 Geyer, Milo  
 Heckman, I. D.  
 Heeter, G. B.\*

McClure, M. J.  
 McCune, F. E.  
 Metzger, Ida  
 Minnich, Levi\*  
 Minnich, Spencer  
 Mishler, J. D.  
 Noffsinger, Orville\*  
 Ohmart, G. Roy\*  
 Parker, I. D.\*  
 Petersime, Ray\*  
 Priser, Fred  
 Reiff, M. K.  
 Rensberger, M. N.  
 Sanger, S. F.\*  
 Shepfer, Edward\*  
 Sherman, Russell  
 Shively, Levi  
 Shively, A. A.\*  
 Shoemaker, G. L.  
 Shriver, Ruth  
 Snell, Daniel  
 Snider, G. A.\*  
 Speicher, J. B.  
 Stauffer, John  
 Stine, Ora W.  
 Stinebaugh, Virgil  
 Strausbaugh, George S.\*  
 Stutsman, H. V.  
 Syler, Clay\*  
 Teeter, L. W.\*



Hendricks, Eldo  
Hersch, Elmer  
Hoff, E. B.  
Hollinger, David\*  
Hollinger, R. C.\*  
Holsinger, L. T.\*  
Hornish, J. F.

Jackson, I. W.\*

Kreider, Frank  
Knepper, G. B.  
Kurtz, D. W.

Landis, Moyne\*  
Light, J. B.

Thomas, D. D.  
Thomas, Lena

Ulrey, Calvin\*  
Ulrey, Edson\*  
Ulrey, S. S.

Wenger, Russel C.

Werking, O. D.\*

White, Ralph

Whitacre, E. C.

Wine, Jacob

Wine, N. B.\*

Young, E. S.

Young, S. S.

Many friends have made Manchester College possible through their gifts. The thousands of smaller gifts have all counted. The family that has given most to the College is Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ulrey. In about 1937, President Winger persuaded Calvin Ulrey to deed to the college his property with the provision that he and Mrs. Ulrey should have the income during their lifetime. Mr. Ulrey was to manage the property as long as he could. After he could no longer look after it or after his death the college was to manage it and turn the profits to the College. The estate consists of a large farm, annuities, various securities, and some real estate. Mr. Ulrey passed away at Christmas time in 1942. Since that time Mrs. Ulrey has turned back to the college a large part of her income. In all forms the gifts of Mr. and Mrs. Ulrey to the college now exceed \$300,000.00.

Many others have given generously through direct contributions, through wills, and annuities, in amounts that reach \$30,000.00 and even \$50,000.00. The countless smaller gifts coming to the college from year to year are what has kept the College alive, and now keeps it growing. During the past several years, the General Brotherhood Board and the churches of the region have contributed very helpfully to the support of the College.

The writer of these lines first came to Manchester College in the spring of 1904. E. M. Crouch was President, L. D. Ikenberry was treasurer, I. B. Book was Secretary of the faculty. The faculty was small, no one had had sufficient training for a Ph. D. degree. Some of the faculty had A. M. degrees. Others only bachelors degrees. There were three buildings on the campus then. The boys' dormitory was not built until three years later. Students were mostly of a sub-collegiate level. Life was simple. There were no intercollegiate athletics. There were no movies as yet and no automobiles on the campus.



But Literary Societies flourished and provided intellectual stimulus and social opportunity. The Bible Society was strong and was well supported by those interested in religion. It was a living force on the campus.

Many changes have occurred on the campus. Literary Societies have disappeared. Various departmental clubs have taken their place. The International Relations Club catches the interest of those who are interested in public affairs. The Future Teachers of America provides another club. The Ministerial students have their own organization and the Manchester Christian Association is the over-all organization coordinating the various religious groups.

The College now also engages in intercollegiate contests in the leading sports: football, basketball, baseball, tennis, track, and cross-country.

In 1950, the college had about 49 teachers and administrators. Thirteen members of the faculty hold Ph. D. degrees and the remainder hold an A. M. or its equivalent in some special line.

Administratively, instead of only a president, a treasurer, and secretary, the College now has its President, a Dean of the College, a Dean of Students, a Dean (or Counsellor) of Women, a Registrar, a Treasurer, Public Relations officers, Alumni Secretary, two full-time librarians, a Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, and a full force of campus workers, cooks, and matrons.

There are now more than 6,000 alumni of the combined Mt. Morris-Manchester merged colleges. The assets of the College are approximately \$2,250,000.00. The library that contained only a few thousand books in 1904 now has more than 40,000 volumes in addition to government documents.

Some thirty or more years ago a set of Chimes was installed on the Administration Building. Again and again they have pealed out the great hymns of the church to the college community. Many times they stir the heart with a song of challenge that quickens the pulse, and hastens the step.

Manchester College has a spirit. It is a spirit of moral earnestness, a spirit of devotion, a spirit of work, a spirit of service. If one doesn't harmonize with that spirit he will not be happy at Manchester. If he catches the spirit, and follows the gleam, he will become a "Manchester Man." A Manchester man is one who has caught the spirit of the place at its best, and incarnated that spirit in his life.



## CHAPTER VII

### CAMP ALEXANDER MACK

Under the leadership of the national youth secretary, C. H. Shamberger, youth camps were held in the Central Region at Winona Lake, Indiana, in 1921-1922; at Ludlow Falls, Ohio in 1923; and at Camp Nelson Dodd south of Mansfield, Ohio, and at Oakwood Park, Syracuse, Indiana in 1924. At the 1924 camps it was decided to endeavor to secure and build a camp ground for the Church of the Brethren centrally located. At Oakwood Park in July 1924 Manly Deeter, John Eberly, Russell C. Wenger, and L. W. Shultz, and Moyne Landis were appointed as a locating committee.



**Camp Alexander Mack (Air View, 1947)**

John W. Lear, then of Bethany Biblical Seminary, attended both of the 1924 gatherings. After these camps he spent a week on Lake Wawbee. While there he told Jacob B. Neff that he thought this was the site the new camp-to-be ought to be located. Brother Neff wrote L. W. Shultz stating that he gave a hearty welcome to locate the camp on his farm on Lake Wawbee.



The committee made a careful survey of possible sites and after authorization to proceed was given by the districts of Middle and Northern Indiana in October, the committee decided to purchase six acres from Jacob and Chloa D. Neff on the east shore of Lake Wawbee two and one-half miles southeast of Milford, Indiana. In November an area of forty acres mostly water was purchased from the Syracuse Cement Company to serve as a beach. On Thanksgiving Day in 1924 volunteer workers began clearing the grounds of brush and Mrs. Sadie Stutsman Wampler led the way in drawing plans for building and landscaping. On this day also the camp name was chosen and the decision was made to give names of Brethren significance to the buildings, markers, and spots on the grounds.

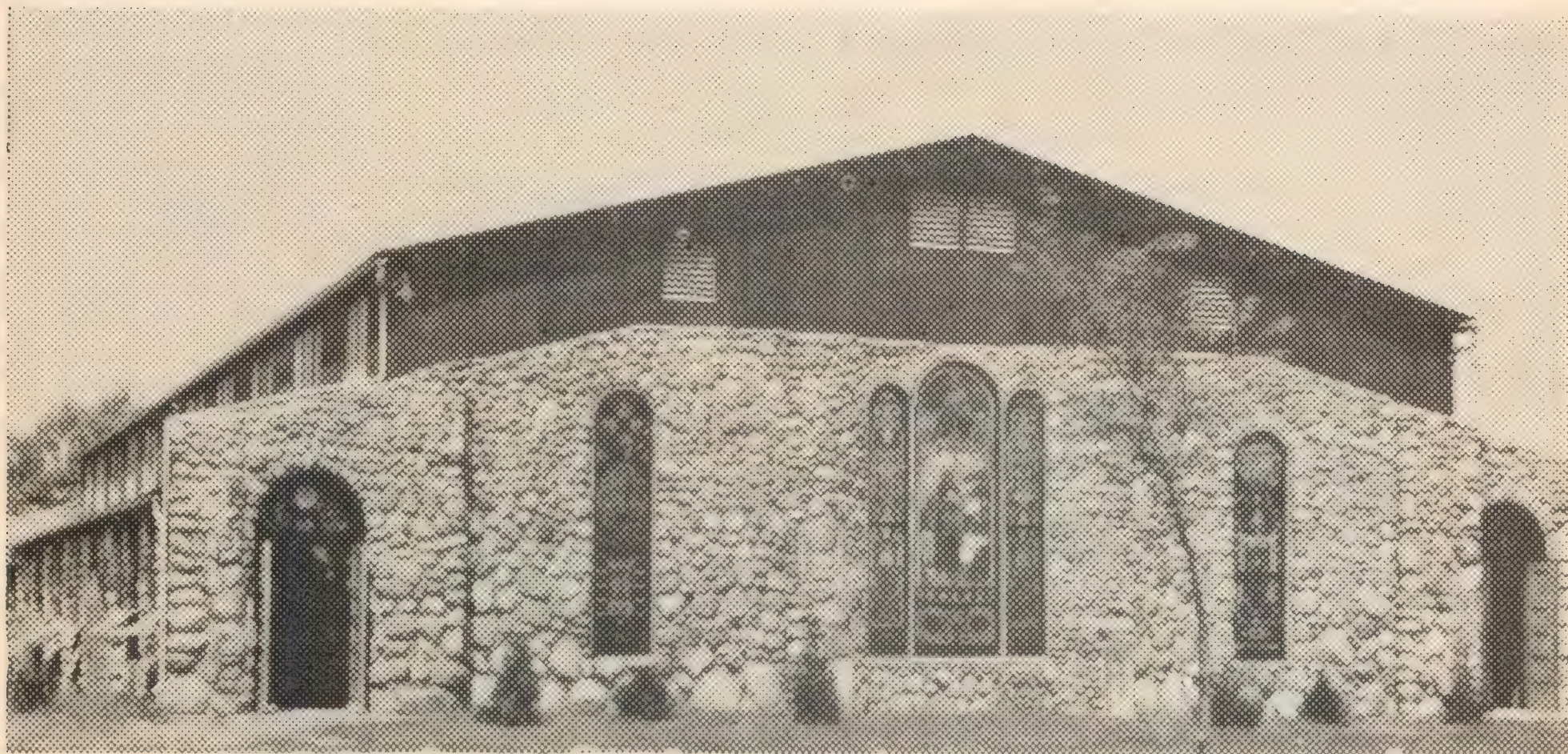


**Becker Lodge**

On November 27, 1929 incorporation plans were made by John Eberly, Manly Deeter, Clara (Wine) Bolinger, Ada Scrogum, and Lawrence W. Shultz. It was "the purpose of this corporation to purchase and equip a camp site on which to hold conferences, institutes, and youth training camps for the Church of the Brethren in the Central Region."

The spring and summer work of 1925 (as many another has been since) was a race with time to be ready for the first camp to be held at the camp opening on July 27. During that season W. R. Deeter Cabin, Sarah Major Hall, twelve cabins, and a council circle were constructed. Later a good hillside auditorium for vespers was built facing the lake and the sunset. (Peter) Becker Lodge was built 1931-1934;





**Quinter-Miller Auditorium**

(James) Quinter- (R. H.) Miller (Sr.) Auditorium was sponsored and built by the men of the two northern districts of Indiana 1933-1940. The Ulrich House for staff quarters was built 1945-1948 and the small chapel 1946-1948. In 1948 Sarah Major Hall was remodeled and re-roofed. In 1951 the Auditorium was repaired and a beach sea wall was built.



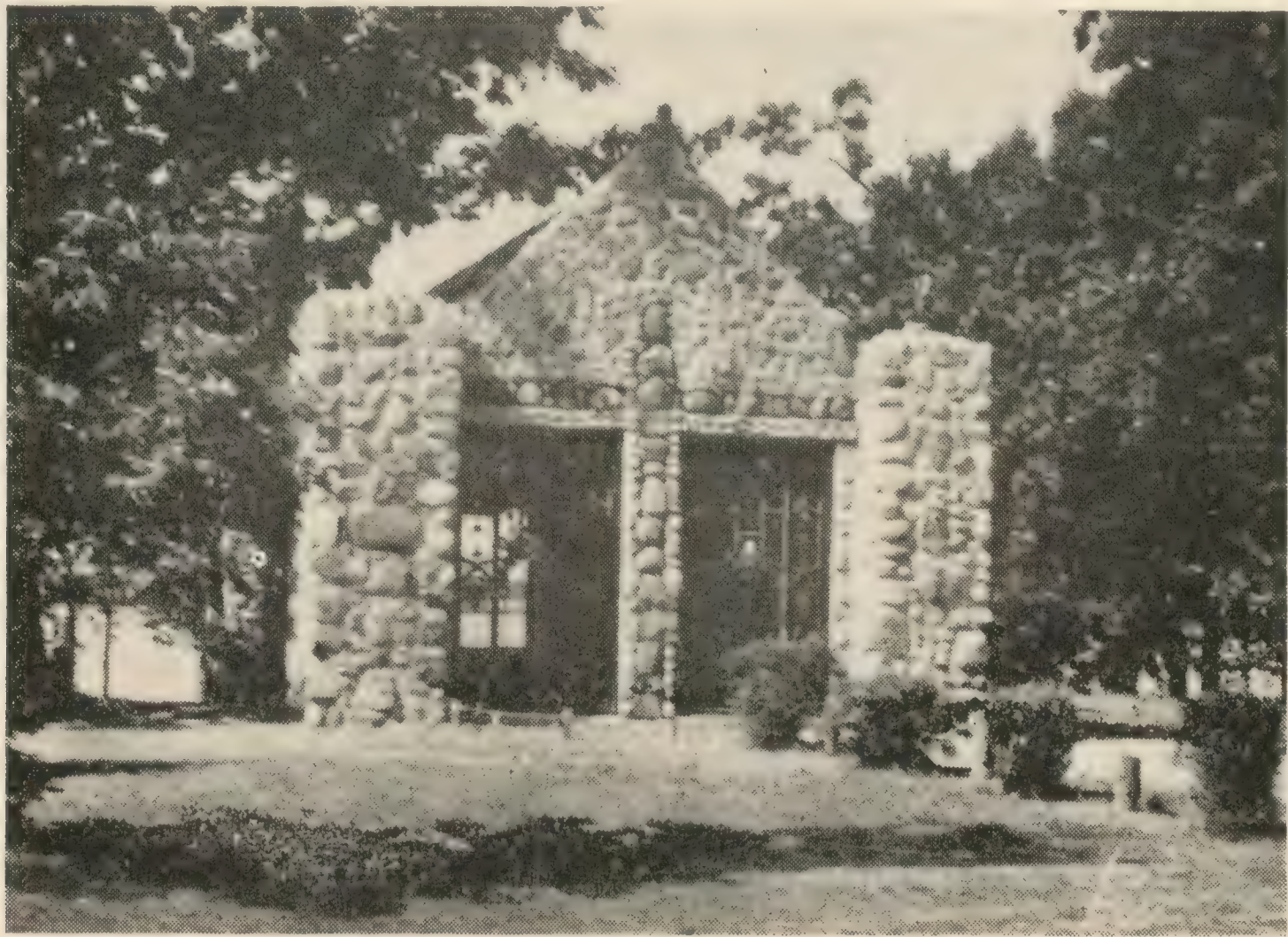
**Ulrich House**

A very valuable addition in the form of a twelve panel mural painting depicting the history of the Church of the Brethren was sponsored by the Youth Camps and executed by Medford D. Neher, then



pastor of the North Poplar Ridge Church near Defiance, Ohio. This was completed 1945-1949 and dedicated June 5, 1949.

Markers to A. W. Ross, Jacob and Chloa Neff, William Beery, and the Mack stone with the names of Miller, Saur, Becker, Stover are now in position. Samuel Murray Mound for assembly and an outdoor grill and shelter house are useful in the program.



**Stone Chapel**

To do all this work during the twenty-seven years (1924-1951) came an abundance of volunteer service to aid those who were paid to work. Milo Geyer, Charles Newcomer, Oscar W. Neher, and John Miller served as head carpenters. George Barrett, Emeral B. Jones, Dwight Doty, and L. W. Shultz engineered the mason work.

Additions to the land were made over the years so that now the camp grounds and beach are approximately one hundred acres and the (Melvin Neff) Camp Farm of one hundred and forty acres. Heavy contributors to this project were Jacob B. and Chloa D. Neff, Charles and Mae Sparklin, Mrs. Gladys Dewart, Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Ulrey, John W. and Lulu Ulrey Root, J. Q. Burger, Mrs. Rebecca Lesh, and Melvin and Amanda Neff.

### **THE PROGRAM**

Since 1924 the program has expanded from one five day camp to a year round scheduling of events and camps from youth 16-24 in train-



ing now to the training of all ages 9 years of age and older. During 1951 the Church of the Brethren in the summer season used seven of the 15 weeks scheduled. Other groups use the camp when our church does not schedule camps. The camps have varied from five to ten days but are usually five to seven days in length.

The leaders who have served as deans of the various camps are as follows:

*Youth Camps 1925-* C. H. Shamberger, Dan West, J. Clyde Forney, Russell G. West, Edgar Diehm, Fred Hollingshead, Galen Lehman, Jay Johnson, Merlin Cassell, and Arlo Gump.



**Juniors at Dinner**

*Intermediate Girls 1926-* Ollie Heaston Eberly, Georgia Miller Replogle, Ruth Barwick, Opal Browning Brinson, Gletha Mae Noffsinger, Marcea Friend, May Warstler Ober, Fern Geyer Schrock, Mary Keever Burley, Margaret Stump, Treva Carpenter Kintner, Mrs. Van B. Wright, Zalma Weaver, Olive Bagwell Stinebaugh, and Mildred Updike Fulton.

*Intermediate Boys 1926-* Fred A. Replogle, Perry L. Rohrer, Mark Shellhaas, Harmon Bjorklund, Paul Kendall, Eldon Evans, Allen Weldy, Arlo Gump, Clarence Sink, Robert Byerly, and Eugene Gnagy.

*Junior Camps 1937-* Sara Halladay, Lawrence Deardorff, Lester Young, Garland Borden, Samuel Longenecker, and Mildred Fulton.

*Training School 1926-* Ezra Flory, Rufus D. Bowman, H. L.





**German Students at Camp, 1950**

Hartsough, D. D. Funderburg, Raymond Peters, John Metzler, Paul Kinsel, T. G. Weaver, J. H. Mathis and Galen Lehman.

*Music Leaders* have been A. F. Brightbill, Perry L. Huffaker, Paul Halladay, and William Beery.

*Laymen's Fellowship* 1937- T. G. Weaver, Chester Connelly, Paul Sollenberger, and O. B. Bosserman.

Other retreats such as peace camps, Northern Indiana Women's Camp, and the Northern Indiana District Conference (since 1940) are held here also.

Emphasis in the camps teaching program is laid on life commitment, church music, church history and biography, church doctrines, missions, personality development, social and family relations, interracial and international relations, training for church service, recreation, participation in work and planning, and Bible study.

This challenge and experience make for many life decisions and commitments.

### **ORGANIZATION**

Directors who have served during the years are as follows: O. W. Stine, Sadie I. Wampler, Lawrence W. Shultz, Russell Showalter, Fred Replogle, Russell C. Wenger, Jacob B. Neff, Melvin Neff, J. Clyde Forney, A. O. Mote, Ora Delauter, J. J. Anglemeyer, Mabel Funderburg, I. C. Paul, Galen Sargent, H. V. Townsend, Glen Weimer, T. G. Weaver, J. Perry Prather, Burton Metzler, Moyne Landis, E. R. Fisher, W. Glen McFadden, Loretta DeVault, Edgar





Carol Dean

Carl Jean  
Lawrence WBetty Marie  
Cora L.

Ruthanne

**SHULTZ FAMILY****Alumni of Manchester College and Camp Mack**

Diehm, Eldon Evans, Wilbur Bantz, G. A. Cassel, Josephine Wise, Wilbur S. Barnhart, Paul Kinsel, John Metzler, J. D. Reber, Virgil Stinebaugh, George U. Heeter, George W. Phillips, Arlo Gump, W. J. Heisey, Homer Kiracofe, Harold Deeter, Charles Vorheis, Joseph Fisher, Albert Whitmore, James Beahm, Glenn Fruth, Don Disler, Galen Lehman, Willard Powers, Mrs. Gladys Klotz, and Margaret Beck Miller.

By the fall of 1951 the Camp including the Camp Farm had assets of nearly \$150,000 and liabilities of about \$14,000. The auditors stated that if one wished to place the value in terms of current prices the sum above named as assets could be multiplied by  $2\frac{1}{2}$ . The total cash invested by the church and individuals as contributors to September 1951 was less than \$60,000 and of that sum individuals had contributed more than \$10,000. The value has come through donated material, donated labor, camp income, and rising prices. Many friends and firms have contributed to this project.

Camp Mack has served many people in and outside the church. 2,500 campers were here in 1951 in addition to the many mass meetings, district conferences, and special days. A nation wide UCYM Conference was held in September of 1951.

Lawrence W. and Cora Shultz have served continuously through these years caring for the work program. Mrs. Shultz has managed the



dining and rooming facilities. L. W., as he is known, or as "Prof," "Pop", or "Skookum" has done considerable work in the building program as architect, director, carpenter, and mason. He wonders how it was ever done and knows that but for the good help of many hands it would not have been possible.

Camp Mack has been built to serve the Church in its training program. It is "A Beautiful Camp in an Ideal Setting."



**Vesper Hill—Camp Mack**



*"Come and See"*



## CHAPTER VIII

### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

#### JOSEPH AMICK

Elder Joseph Amick was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania in 1834 and died in Illinois in 1915. He grew up in Pennsylvania and married Sarah Mertz, 1856. In 1862 they located in White County, Indiana, within the Bachelor Run territory. He was called to the ministry there the next year and in 1865, when the Monticello church was organized, he became one of its faithful workers for the next sixteen years. He became a leading figure in the district and was on the Standing Committee in 1897. He was an advocate of Sunday schools.

In 1881 he went to Mt. Morris and assumed the responsibility for the financial side of our publications. In this he was very successful and he lived to see the business well established in the plant at Elgin. He supported Mt. Morris College and took an interest in the Old Folks' and Orphans' home of Northern Illinois. His wife dying in 1870, he married Hannah Reiff in 1871. She passed away in 1914.

#### ANGLEMYER

Elder John Anglemyer was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He came to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he married Margaret Hoke March 16, 1843. In 1854 they came to Elkhart County, Indiana. Here they raised four children of their own and three orphans. He was called to the ministry in the Union Center Church and was ordained in 1876. For twenty years he was presiding elder of his home church before his death in 1898, at the age of 80. He was a minister and an elder of influence and power.

David Anglemyer was born in Elkhart County in 1864. He was married to Catherine Moyer June 8, 1884. He was called to the ministry in 1899, advanced in 1902 and ordained in 1906 by W. R. Deeter and Daniel Wysong. In 1908 he began as presiding elder of the Union Center Church and served in that capacity for many years. His later years were spent in retirement at his home just across the road from the Union Center Church. He died in 1924.

Franklin Anglemyer, another son of Elder John Anglemyer, was a deacon in the Union Center Church for years. His son, Jesse, was called to the ministry at Union Center. After his preparation in Manchester College, he married Miss Amanda Rodabaugh, the piano instructor at the College, and they accepted the pastorate of her home



church near Williamstown, Ohio, where they still live after more than 45 years of faithful pastoral service.

### APPLEMAN

Adam Appleman was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1841. He was reared in Marshall County, Indiana. Here he married Hannah Knisley, youngest daughter of Elder John Knisley. He was called to the ministry in 1864 and ordained in 1864. He was one of the earliest Sunday-school workers in our church. He met his death in a singular manner. Near his home was Pretty Lake, where he and others often resorted for swimming and bathing. He was a good swimmer. On July 4, 1877, while he and his wife and son John were at the lake, he ran to the edge, dived in, but did not come up. His wife and son ran to see what was wrong, and found him lying in shallow water. They took him out and did what they could to revive him. He lingered a day or two and died. Death was probably due to an injury to the spine.

Elder Jacob Appleman, a younger brother of Elder Adam Appleman, served the Union Church in the ministry many years but later moved to Thomas, Oklahoma, where he died.



**Elder J. F. Appleman and Wife**

John F. Appleman, son of Elder Adam Appleman, was born in Marshall County March 25, 1862. He was married to Laura McClure February 14, 1882. In December, 1884, he was called to the ministry, advanced in 1885 and ordained in 1907 by Elders S. F. Sanger and Daniel Whitmer. He spent most of his life in the Union Church; for five years he was superintendent of the Old Folks and Orphans Home at Mexico. For years he engaged successfully in evangelistic work.



Having a genuine interest in young people, he had much influence with them in preaching. He helped some of them to secure an education. For some time he was traveling secretary of the General Mission Board. For eight years he was presiding elder of his home church and for three years at Walnut. In 1916 he began service as pastor in the Nappanee Church. After two years there was an opportunity for him to take the newly organized church in Plymouth. Since he had a special interest there he and his good wife spent the rest of their lives serving the Plymouth church. Sister Appleman was always his faithful and most efficient helper. She passed away in the spring of 1933. Brother Appleman felt his loss most keenly and survived her but a few months.



#### **WILBUR S. BARNHART**

Wilbur S. Barnhart, son of William W. and Emma Smith Barnhart, was born in Montgomery Co., Ohio, May 23, 1896. At the age of sixteen he became a member of the church at North Manchester where he attended the academy and college. Mabel Evelyn Stutsman, of Canada, became his wife July 28, 1917. They reside at 5702 East Michigan, Indianapolis, Ind., and have three sons, James, Richard, and Philip. Wilbur completed his A. B. course at Manchester in 1928 and received his M. S. degree from Butler University in 1942. He has taught in the public schools of Indiana since 1915 and since 1919 has served in many capacities in the Indianapolis schools. At present he is principal of the George Washington High School in West Indianapolis. He has written school texts.

Wilbur is an active churchman locally, in the city federation, and with the state council. He has served the Southern District of Ind. well on its Council of Promotion and since 1948 on the Board of Administration. At present he represents Southern Indiana on the Manchester



College Board of Trustees of which body he is secretary. During 1933-1948 he represented the Alumni on the Trustee Board.

In 1951 he was elected the first chairman of the Department of United Churchmen of the Indiana Council of Churches.

### **BECHTELHEIMER**

The founder of this family in Indiana was Samuel, Sr. He was a native of Franklin County, West Virginia. His wife's name was Kessler. They first moved to Ohio, then to Henry County where they were pioneers of the Buck Creek church. He died in 1887, at the age of 94, leaving ten children and many grandchildren. Two sons, David and Samuel, became elders.

David was born in Clermont County, Ohio and was six years old when his family moved to Indiana, 1827. In 1841 he married Mary Stump of Delaware County. They had ten children, eight reaching maturity. They united with the church in 1842 and soon moved to the Beaverdam community, within the territory of the Mexico church. In 1849 Bro. Bechtelheimer was called to the ministry, advanced to the eldership 1850, and did much to build up a strong church at Beaverdam. The split in 1881 hit this church hard, many going with the Progressive group. He moved to Nebraska where he was active for twelve years, 1881-92. His wife died in 1891 and he married Mrs. Elizabeth Hoover, Cass County, in 1892. They moved into the Upper Deer Creek congregation in 1893, and he was presiding elder at the time of his death, 1896, of the Lower Deer Creek congregation. He gave nearly fifty years of faithful service. Three times he served on the Standing Committee. His son was J. M. Bechtelheimer and his grandson, Boyd, a minister now living at Flora.

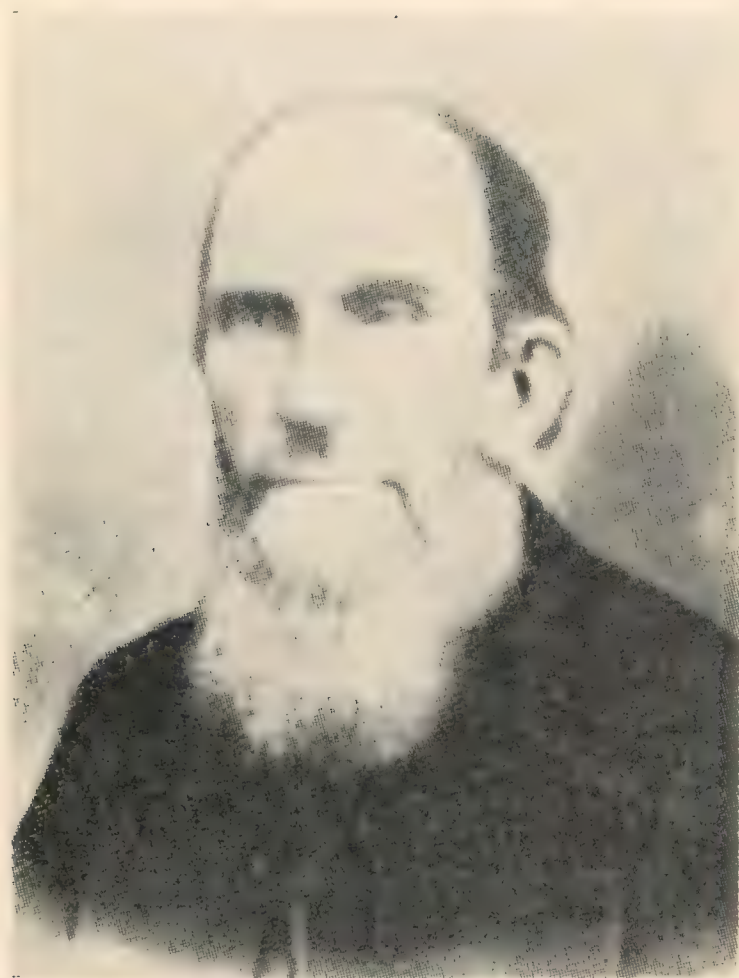
Samuel, brother of David, was called to the ministry in the Monticello congregation in 1875. He lived for a number of years in Upper Deer Creek and was ordained in the Lower Deer Creek church, 1887. He was presiding elder there in 1894, the time of his death.

### **BERKEY**

Elder Jacob Berkey was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania. He was married to Sarah Lint, a cousin of C. G. Lint, of much note in the Church of the Brethren. There were five children born to them in Pennsylvania, and three after they moved to Indiana.

This move was made in the year 1848. They settled on a quarter section just across the road from what is known as the Berkey, or Rock Run Church. In the building of the home we should note Sister Berkey's part. She was the mother of eight children and tenderly cared for them. By their help she made the garden, cared for the cows, sheared the sheep, spun the yarn and made the clothes for the entire





**Elder Jacob Berkey**

family. She could carry a baby and walk three miles to church. Later when her husband became so well known, their home became a kind of hotel where dozens and even hundreds were entertained free of charge. Being of spare build, her endurance was remarkable.

There were but few members in this section when the Berkeys moved in. They belonged to the Elkhart congregation, the center of which was south and west of Goshen where Elder Daniel Cripe was the leader. During 1850 the Rock Run church was organized. On the same day Jacob Berkey was elected to the ministry. He was soon advanced, ordained and placed in charge of the congregation. He became active at once. He was a natural orator and could preach either in Dutch or English. He was a good evangelist for those days. He was fearless in his appeal to sinners. He spent much time preaching in the country east of Goshen, at Middlebury, Pleasant Valley, Topeka, Shipshewana, English Prairie and in Southern Michigan. He would spend many days on these trips, going through all kinds of weather. Through these efforts began the work which later resulted in organized churches at these places.

He did some of his best preaching to members. They were indoctrinated. He was a good counsellor and very successful in settling difficulties. He was sent on many Annual Meeting committees. He was strong in his opposition to tobacco and whiskey. He was one of the early temperance lecturers. He was considered a little advanced for those days, and early advocated the single mode of feet-washing. At his church was held the first protracted meeting in Northern Indiana. Under his oversight the Rock Run church grew in numbers and spir-



itual life. He was a man of strong personal character. He had great power in preserving order. On one occasion a ruffian started to "clean up" a crowd. Elder Berkey went to him, took him by the arm, and set him down, telling him to sit still—and he did. Elder Berkey was a man without fear.

Brother Berkey built up a good homestead. In his barn the Annual meeting of 1868 was held. But his great sacrifice for the church, both in time spent away from home and in generosity at home, occasioned financial embarrassment. He moved to Northeastern Texas in December, 1882. He intended to start a church and started preaching at once. He baptized some but was not permitted to work long. He was called to go some distance to anoint a sister. He made the trip as far as possible by rail and hired a horse to make the rest of the journey. At Gainsville he found the creek swollen by recent rains. A stranger on the other side warned him not to cross. But Brother Berkey was a man who knew no fears. He evidently believed that the Lord had work for him, and so he rode into the stream. The horse rolled in the swift current and the aged veteran was swept down the stream. The body was recovered the next day and identified. The judge and lawyers of the county, who had heard him preach in the courtyard, purchased the burial outfit. Hundreds attended the funeral out of respect they bore him from their short acquaintance. His wife lived until October 26, 1888.

Isaac L. Berkey was seven years old when his parents moved to Indiana. He grew to young manhood amidst the pioneer conditions of Indiana. June 21, 1863, he was married to Cornelia Andrews, of New York. Her people were Baptists, but she united with the church before their marriage.

In 1885 Brother Berkey was called to the ministry. About the same time he became superintendent of the Sunday School. He was perhaps the first Sunday School superintendent among the brethren in Northern Indiana. In the years of his ministry that followed he was always ready to give the Sunday-school and mission work what help he could.

In 1891 Brother Berkey was ordained. The same day he was placed in charge of the Rock Run church and continued as presiding elder there for twenty years. His services were in great demand elsewhere. Four times he served on Standing Committee. While not so widely known as a speaker, his sermons were interesting. He had an individuality all his own and a keenness of wit and expression that gave interest to all he said.

Brother and Sister Berkey were the parents of five sons. They lived for most of their married life on a farm just across the road from the Rock Run church, adjoining the place where Elder Jacob Berkey.



his father, first settled. Elder Berkey passed away in 1921, surviving Sister Berkey but a short time.

### **S. S. BLOUGH**

Brother Blough was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania on April 27, 1868, to Emanuel J. and Sally Brandt Blough. He united with the church in 1886 and was married to Mary Alice Wertz on June 17, 1894. They have three sons and one daughter.

Brother Blough took his educational training over a rather long period. After some work at Juniata he took his A. B. degree at Manchester when he was forty-seven and his B. D. at Bethany when just under fifty. His teaching experience included seven years at Manchester in the field of Bible. Since then he has been a pastor till his retirement about three years ago (1948). That is a long time of service. In fact Brother Blough has been a minister about fifty-seven years, since 1894, and an elder since 1902.

Among the several pastorates he has held was Fort Wayne. While teaching at Manchester College, he served the Manchester Church as pastor two years. He is well known throughout the Brotherhood. He is a brother of Brother J. M. Blough, veteran missionary to India. Brother Blough has had many administrative responsibilities and has appeared on many programs through the years of his ministry.

### **DANIEL BOCK**

Elder Samuel Bock, father of Daniel, was a native of Pennsylvania. He moved to Montgomery County, Ohio and later to Howard County, Indiana, 1874. He died there fifteen years later.

Daniel was born in Pennsylvania, 1834, was called to the ministry in Ohio, 1869, and five years later moved with his parents to Howard County. He was ordained to the eldership by J. W. Metzger and Isaac Cripe. For more than forty years he lived within the original bounds of the Howard church; for some twenty years he lived in Kokomo. He had the oversight of Howard, Greentown, and Windfall congregations at different times. He did mission work in Southern Indiana, being one of the organizers of New Hope church in Jackson County. His wife's name was Susannah Erbaugh. Brother Bock was a brother of S. Bock, prominent in connection with our early publishing interests. Bro. Daniel lost his eyesight about 1904. He died in 1922.

### **RUSSELL V. BOLLINGER**

Brother Bollinger was born October 5, 1901, in Lagrange County to John and Nora Cripe Bollinger. He united with the church at twelve. In 1924 he married Martha Cripe. They are the parents of nine children.



In spite of the fact that Russell was one of a large family of moderate means, he has secured a rather extensive educational training. After finishing high school at Shipshewana, he attended Manchester, receiving his A. B. degree in 1926. He spent a summer in Bethany, 1933. Between teaching periods, he attended the University of Wisconsin and received both his A. M. (1934) and his Ph. D. (1939) degrees in Education.

He taught in the schools of Lagrange County from 1927 to 1938, in Ashland College (Dean of the College) 1939-1946, and at Manchester since 1946, where he is Professor of Psychology and Dean of Students.

While at Ashland College, Brother Bollinger was very active in the churches of Northeastern Ohio, where he did much preaching, lecturing, occasional speaking and served three congregations there as elder. He was chairman of their district Board of Christian Education. He has represented both Northeastern Ohio and Middle Indiana on the Standing Committee, once for each district. In 1949 he was Moderator of the District Conference of Middle Indiana and is on the Board of Christian Education for the district. He has been a Camp Mack Director, on the Central Regional Council, member of Fraternal Relations Committee of the Annual Conference, and numerous other responsibilities for the church. Brother Bollinger has been a leading educator and an outstanding churchman. He delivers many lectures for clubs, churches, commencements, and other occasions.

### **RALPH BOYER**

Ralph Boyer was born in 1901 at the Boyer homestead, now owned by Elder Leonard Custer. He received a careful training in the teachings of the church from his parents. After his elementary schooling in a one-room school (Acme Hall, today) he attended and graduated from the Laketon High School.

Bro. Boyer has been a very faithful member of the church and has been most active in music work, having been chorister for a number of years. He has been Church Clerk, Trustee, and held other responsible positions. In the District he has served five years on the Board of Christian Education and six years on the Men's Work Cabinet. He also served his district for a year or more as Mission Secretary.

### **BOWERS**

The Bowers family, along with the Dunbars, have been identified with the White church for many years.

The first ministers elected there were Martin Bowers, Sr., and Abner Bowers, second cousins. The former was a justice of the peace,



a man of high standing and wide acquaintance. Abner was outstanding as a very interesting conversationalist.

Adonijab, son of Abner was born in 1837 and died in 1912, in Montgomery County. He married Ruth Raper in 1859. He was called to the ministry in 1863 and ordained in 1882. He had a large library, was very well read, and could speak intelligently on many subjects.

His daughter married L. M. Dunbar, who was called to the ministry in 1863 and served the church nearly fifty years in the ministry. His nephew, E. P. Dunbar, was called to the ministry in 1890 and ordained in 1915. They had eight children several of whom attended Manchester College. They celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1940. Bro. Dunbar passed away in 1941.



**HARVEY S. BOWERS**

Harvey S. Bowers, son of Enos and Mary Jane (Bushong) Bowers, was born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1879. At the age of fifteen he was baptized into the church by Daniel D. Thomas. After completing the elementary grades and the equivalent of High School, he attended Manchester College, receiving the B. E. degree in 1904 and the A. B. degree in 1927.

After teaching school three years in Ohio, he came to St. Joseph County, Indiana where he continued to teach, and in 1906, he



was called to the ministry. For the next forty years Brother Bowers served in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties in the joint capacity of teacher and minister. He retired from teaching in 1946, but is still active in the ministry.

The first five years of his religious teaching and preaching ministry were spent at Eagle Creek, Ohio, and at Oak Grove and Portage churches, Indiana. His ministry with the Baugo congregation began in 1909 and has continued until the present time. He was ordained to the eldership in 1917 and has served the Baugo congregation as presiding elder all but a few years since 1922.

He has served the district on the Board of Christian Education for nine years, on the Ministerial Board for three years, one term as trustee of Manchester College, as a member of the committee on compiling District Meeting Minutes, and also as a member of the Historical Committee to prepare this History of the Church of the Brethren in Northern Indiana.

Brother Bowers married Rhoda Wineland in 1904, and later, following her decease, he married Mrs. Leta Weaver of Middlebury, Indiana. By the first marriage there were three daughters, Vinna, Floy and Ruth; by the second marriage there were three daughters and two sons, Grace, Walter, Martha, Elma and James. He has been modest and unassuming, yet an excellent speaker, a wise administrator and a loving father.

### THE BENJAMIN BOWMAN FAMILY

The founder of this family, so prolific in able ministers and laymen in the Church of the Brethren, was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, but moved to the Nettle Creek church shortly after its organization about 1820. Benjamin Bowman became elder of the church in 1830 when David Miller moved to Northern Indiana. An able preacher, he spoke in either English or German equally well. He served on the Standing Committee and other Annual Meeting Committees. Late in life he married the widowed mother of Elder George W. Studebaker and moved to her home in the Mississinewa church where he died in 1856. He was buried in the Eaton cemetery.

Four of Benjamin's sons were ministers. John Bowman was elected in the Nettle Creek congregation. He was small in stature and of a likeable disposition. He preached many funerals. Moving to Huntington County, he became the first elder of the Antioch (Andrews) church. During the Civil War he preached many funerals for soldiers killed in that conflict.

Another son, Jacob, was also an able preacher. He died in 1896 at the age of 90.

A third son, Daniel, succeeded David Hardman to the oversight of



the Nettle Creek congregation, 1863. He died at 86 in 1894. In 1885 L. W. Teeter was ordained as a helper to Bro. Bowman who was then well advanced in years. His son, Abraham, and his grandson, Daniel E., were both ministers at Nettle Creek. Another grandson, A. D. Bowman, preached in Idaho.

A fourth son, David, became a minister late in life. He was known as "Squire" Bowman because he was a justice of the peace. He was a clear thinker, forceful speaker, and a fine character. He served as writing clerk of his district. His daughter, Nancy, married Elder Lewis W. Teeter. Bro. Bowman died in 1893.

Another son was Benjamin, Jr., the grandfather of Elder D. W. Bowman (born 1870), for some years presiding elder at Anderson. He married Sarah, daughter of John A. Replogle.

### **EMMA BOWMAN**

Emma Studebaker (born 1853) was the daughter of Henry Studebaker, one of the famous wagon-makers of South Bend. Her grandparents were members of the church but not her parents. She united with the church in 1869 and, like her grandparents, took a great interest in its work. Her grandfather died in 1877 and did not see the new churchhouse in which he was so greatly interested.

In 1875, she married Amos Bowman of Kosciusko County. They moved into the Spring Creek, and then into the Manchester church. She was a great leader in Sunday school work and in the temperance cause. For many years she was president of the local W. C. T. U. at North Manchester. She lived to a good age, dying a few years ago.

### **GALEN BOWMAN**

William and Nora (Rhinesmith) Bowman lived in Lagrange County, Indiana at the time a son, Galen, was born to them on February 10, 1893. Both parents were born in Elkhart County. For much of their lives they were members of the Mennonite Church. Galen received his grade and High School training at Topeka, Indiana, and attended Bethany Biblical Seminary Training School five terms.

On April 27, 1921, Galen was married to Velma Yoder, whose home was also at Topeka. Two daughters, Esther and Ruth were born to them; Esther is now married to James Buchanan and lives in Elkhart and Ruth married Ray Rowe, son of Dewey Rowe, and lives in Seattle, Washington. Galen owns a small farm near Middlebury and has spent part of his life as a farmer. He has also spent much time working for the Kreider's Nursery, doing landscaping.

He was called to the ministry in March, 1919, in the Pleasant Valley Church near Middlebury, where he lived continuously until 1942, when he became pastor of the Bethany Church, near New Paris. He





**Galen Bowman**

was ordained to the eldership in 1923. He was part-time minister at the Pleasant Valley Church for the first ten years of his ministerial labors, and again, part-time pastor and elder there, 1936-41. From 1930-35 he was part-time pastor at the Pleasant Chapel, Indiana, and Mottsville, Michigan churches.

Brother Bowman has been one of the leading figures among the Northern Indiana ministers for many years. He has been a member of the Mission and Ministerial Boards of the district for eighteen years. And since the Mission Board is elder in charge of the churches they support, he has been elder in charge of eighteen churches at various times. He has served Northern Indiana on the Standing Committee four times. In 1945 he made a voyage on a cattle boat to Greece, Italy and North Africa. He is a good preacher and a wise administrator.

### **BRALLIER**

Henry Harrison Brallier was born in Carroll County. He attended high school at Pierceton and taught school eleven years. He united with the church in 1868, was called to the ministry in 1879 and advanced in 1880. He ministered to the Washington church for nearly thirty years. He was ordained to the eldership in 1900. His wife,



Catherine Baer, was a sister of the wife of Elder J. C. Murray. Bro. Brallier died in 1907.

His son, Chester, was called to the ministry in the Washington church in 1901. He later moved into the Spring Creek congregation where he was ordained in 1909, and where he is still living.

### **BRANSON**

Hiram Branson was born in Highland County, Ohio in 1825 and moved to Henry County, Indiana, in 1831. In 1848, he married Charlotte Jackson and settled in Delaware County. The Killbuck church, organized 1860, called Hiram to the ministry in 1864. He was soon ordained and placed in charge of the church. For thirty-five years he presided as a successful and devoted shepherd. He was well-known in the district. He left a family of ten children, having been married three times.

His son, Isaac, was born in 1851 and died in 1912. He united with the church at 19, was called to the ministry in 1873, and was ordained in 1883. A man of good personality, he revealed strong Christian characteristics. His simple, earnest Christian life won a high respect for him in his community. He was elder of his church for many years and was active in district affairs.

Rufus, another son of Hiram, was called to the ministry but was not as active in the office as his brother, Isaac.



**Letha Bowman Burnette**



**LETHA BOWMAN BURNETT**

Letha Bowman was reared in the Nettle Creek congregation. She married Samuel G. Burnett, a minister, in 1917. Both she and Brother Burnett were students in Bethany, she for two and he for three years. He was called to the ministry in Oklahoma in 1908 and to the eldership in 1921. They lived at Anderson mostly from 1923 to 1947, the time of Brother Burnett's death. Their three sons are Howard J., Herman B., and Paul E.

Sister Burnett has been a member of the District Women's Work Cabinet. At present she is a member of the Board of Administration for Southern Indiana and is Secretary of the Commission on Christian Education for the district. She has been an active worker in the Anderson Church.

**T. D. BUTTERBAUGH**

Born to George W. and Lydia Butterbaugh, 1872, Theron D. Butterbaugh married Etta Wright, daughter of Elder John H. Wright. His grandparents, Abraham and Hannah Miller, were as devoted to the church (Manchester congregation) as any members the church ever had.

In 1907 he was called to the ministry in the Eel River church. With the division of territory, he resided in West Eel River where he was ordained in December, 1913.

He attended Manchester College three years, 1908-1911. He was a ready and forceful speaker who often engaged in evangelistic services. Brother and Sister Butterbaugh were the parents of seven children. Bro. Butterbaugh died in 1931. Sister Butterbaugh lives in North Manchester.

**BYERLY**

The Byerlys of Indiana are members of a large and influential family of the Sugar Creek church in Allen County, Ohio.

Jesse, son of George Byerly, was called to the ministry in the Pleasant Dale church in 1903. He married Armitta Early, daughter of Samuel Early of Lima, Ohio. He spent several years in Manchester College and then returned to the Pleasant Dale church. He died in 1929 or 1930. He was a member of the District Mission Board for several years and did preaching in many churches.

Daniel, another of the seven sons of George Byerly, was born in 1866. He married Dora Husson. He taught school for several years. After the death of his first wife he married Lulu Pauling of Huntington. When the Pleasant Dale church was organized, he was called to the ministry, 1889. He served his church for many years, passing away in 1935 or 1936. He was ordained in 1899 and had the oversight of his



church for many years. He served a number of years on the District Mission Board since 1909. He was the father of nine children.

Several other members of this family have resided in Indiana.

#### **D. C. CAMPBELL**

The subject of this sketch was born in Buchanan County, Iowa, 1855. His father, Martin, was one of the charter members of White church, in Montgomery County, Indiana. D. C., or Charles, was married to Margaret Ann Oglevary, 1876. They had eleven children, of whom nine grew to maturity. Except for four years in Kansas, the family always lived in the White church.

Bro. Campbell was called to the ministry in 1881, was ordained in 1890, and had the oversight of the church from 1890 to 1903 and 1911 to 1923. He also was elder of several other churches. He served twice on Standing Committee and on several other committees.

In 1902 Bro. Campbell and E. M. Cobb took a trip to Europe and the Holy Land. Bro. Campbell baptized Edward Loveless in the Jordan River. The latter lived in the White church for several years. Bro. Campbell lectured widely on topics relating to his trip and other themes, having been called to speak to many groups. Bro. Campbell passed away on July 17, 1936.

#### **CAYLOR**

The Caylor family migrated from Germany in the person of John Caylor, 1763. He was an indentured servant, having to work three years to pay his passage to America. He married, moved West around 1805, the year a son, Elias, was born near Dayton, Ohio. The country was still a frontier, but Elias managed to learn to read and write. He married Sarah Umberger in 1825. They had ten children. Both united with the church in 1827, moved to Nettle Creek ten years later, and five years later to Upper Fall Creek. Here he was elected deacon and then minister, 1844. He did much preaching. In 1849 he moved to Hamilton County where there was a nucleus of members who were organized into Stony Creek church. He was ordained there 1859.

Bro. Caylor preached far and near, travelling on horseback. In Montgomery County he baptized R. H. Miller, the distinguished preacher of later days. Bro. Caylor spent his last days in the Arcadia congregation.

His son, David Samuel Caylor, was born in 1829. He farmed and operated a mill on White River. He hauled flour from Cincinnati. He received some training in a small college near Cincinnati, beyond the elementary schools. After his first wife died in 1854, he studied medicine at Rush, in Chicago. He was a successful physician, practicing at Independence, Greentown, and Petroleum.



He united with the church in 1861 and was called to the ministry in 1864. He was a man of great zeal, strong convictions, and earnest prayer. He studied his Bible much. Being both a minister and physician, he had many opportunities of service. His church responsibilities came first with him.

He was married four times. By his third marriage he had a son, Charles, physician at Pennville and later Bluffton where he and his two sons operated a clinic and hospital till Charles was killed in an accident about 1946.

D. C. Caylor married a widow residing in the Wabash church as his fourth wife. He, therefore, spent his last years in Middle Indiana. He practiced medicine and continued his church work till a stroke disabled him in 1897. He lived six more years. Under his eldership of the Somerset church, Otho Winger came into the church at the age of ten. Bro. Winger gave this good man much credit for his own consecration of his life to the work of the church.

John H. Caylor, son of Abraham, a brother of Elias, was married 1849, entered the church, with his wife, 1850, was called to the ministry, 1857, and was ordained, 1870. He was a pillar in the Stony Creek church. He was well known to his district and did much mission work in the southern part of the district. He died in 1899.

Abraham Caylor, cousin of John, also lived in the Stony Creek church where he was called to the ministry. He later moved to the Greentown church and died in Kokomo, 1905, at the age of sixty.

### **CHARLES C. CRIPE**

Charles C. Cripe, son of Elder Jonathan M. and Mary Ellen (Rupel) Cripe, was born in St. Joseph County, Indiana, July 20, 1882. He attended grade school in St. Joseph and Elkhart Counties. His later schooling consisted of one year at Roann High School and three years at Manchester College and four years at Bethany Biblical Seminary, where he received the B. S. L. degree in 1917. Before entering Seminary he taught school in St. Joseph County four years and Elkhart County four years. On December 24, 1907 he married Amanda Pletcher of Goshen, Indiana. They are the parents of one son, Paul A. Cripe, who lives in Bremen, Indiana. He was elected to the ministry in the Oak Grove congregation in 1905, advanced in the Rock Run Church in 1908 and ordained to the eldership at Lewiston, Minnesota, in 1916. He served in the free ministry in the Oak Grove and Rock Run Churches. During his years in the Seminary he taught two years in the Chinese Sunday School, preached at Douglas Park Mission one year, taught in Jewish Night School one year, and Home Bible Classes at the Hastings Street Mission one year. After his graduation from the Seminary he served as pastor at Lewiston, Minnesota,





**C. C. Cripe and Wife**

one year; was pastor at Bremen, Indiana seventeen years; Argos, Indiana (Walnut Church) ten years, and is now serving as pastor of the Bethel Church, Milford, Indiana since 1945. During the years at Bremen he baptized 144 persons; at Argos 122, and at Bethel, thus far, 28. He served on the Standing Committee eight times; (will serve the ninth time in 1950); was a member of the District Ministerial Board ten years, and on the District Mission Board three years. He served as District Writing Clerk five times before 1939 when the office was made a three-year term, and has served continuously since. Has been a member of Annual Meeting Credential Committee twice as well as numerous district committees. Was chairman of a committee to compile and classify the District Meeting Minutes and is chairman of the Northern Indiana Historical Committee. He has held fifty-two evangelistic meetings with two hundred seventy-five accessions. He has served as elder of eleven of the Northern Indiana Churches. His wife Amanda, died May 7, 1949 in Milford, Kosciusko County, Indiana.

#### **DANIEL CRIPE**

“Daniel Cripe died December 10, 1859, aged 87 years 7 months and 4 days.”

“Magdalena, wife of D. Cripe, died May 25, 1842, aged 72 years and 1 day.”



The above inscriptions may be read on very modest-looking stone slabs about 9 by 20 inches, in an old cemetery just south of Goshen, Indiana. And they mark the last resting place of the pioneer family of the Church of the Brethren in Northern Indiana.

Elder Daniel Cripe moved from Montgomery County, Ohio. He had been called to the ministry and was the first elder of the Wolf Creek congregation. He, with his family, his brother, Jacob Cripe, Christ Stouder and John Pippenger and their families came in 1829. Daniel Cripe was a man of medium height, was broad shouldered and well muscled; his face was smooth shaven and his complexion light. Being of kindly disposition he made many friends and commanded the love and respect of all who knew him.

"He selected for himself about a half a section of land on Elkhart Prairie, about two miles south of where the present Goshen courthouse stands. He at once erected a log cabin upon it and made other preparations for a future home. He with his friends constructed a rude plow, with a wooden moldboard, for the purpose of turning a few furrows to mark their claims and put out small crops to raise provisions for the coming winter. After making the plow, the question arose, who should use it first? It was decided that the oldest should use it first; and as Daniel Cripe was the oldest the lot fell on him; and thus, according to tradition, he was the first white settler to plow a furrow on Elkhart Prairie."—Opperman.

In 1830 Elder Cripe made a trip to Ohio and returned with other emigrant families. Among these first families were some of his children. He at once began preaching to these pioneer families, preaching largely in German. A church was organized in 1830. He was the first elder and minister. The first love feast was held in Elder Cripe's home. He himself furnished a ewe lamb for the supper.

Elder and Sister Cripe were the parents of four daughters and five sons. The sons' names were Samuel, Emanuel, John, Daniel and Benjamin. Of the daughters, Susan married Joseph Stouder, Cathrine married David Mikesell, Polly married John Pippenger, and Elizabeth married Christian Stouder. One great-grandchild, Amos Cripe, became a minister in the Mennonite Church. One great-grandson, C. C. Cripe is a minister in the Church of the Brethren. He spent many years in Northern Indiana but is now living in California. Jacob Cripe, of Goshen, was a brother to Daniel. Another brother settled at North Manchester and another at Wabash, Indiana. Many are the descendants of this first generation, and many of these are active in the service of the church.

Elder Cripe was not so able as a preacher, judged by the standards of today, but he had great influence among his people by his godly life among them. He was faithful to his holy calling and did a great



work in the founding of the Church of the Brethren in a county that today is one of the most thickly settled with our people that we have in the church.

Jacob Cripe, a brother to Daniel, died in 1865 at the age of 98 years 5 months and 14 days. He was the great-grandfather of John U. and Calvin Cripe, ministers of the Church of the Brethren in Indiana. His grandson, Jonathan Cripe, was a faithful minister of the church. Jonathan's son, Charles C., is a minister of the church, living at Milford, Indiana, and co-author of this history. A daughter Una, was the wife of Elder Lafayette Steele, while another daughter, Winnie, died on the China Mission field. Elder George W. Cripe, of Cerro Gordo, Illinois, and Jacob Cripe, a minister of Elkhart Valley, were grandsons of Jacob Cripe.

### GEORGE W. CRIPE

Elder George W. Cripe, though identified with Southern Illinois in later years, spent the most active part of his life in Indiana. He was born in Darke County, Ohio, May 23, 1833. He was raised in Elkhart County, Indiana, and united with the Church of the Brethren in the Solomon's Creek congregation. Here he was called to the ministry in 1866. Shortly after this he moved to the Washington Church (Now North Winona) near Warsaw, and still later into the Fairview Church, Southern Indiana.

Elder Cripe's great work for Indiana was that of an evangelist. He was one of the first brethren to engage actively in protracted meetings. He had great power through the Spirit to do this work. Scores were brought into the church through his stirring appeals. While in Southern Indiana he was one of the missionaries in their great field.

On Christmas Day, 1852, he was united in marriage to Barbara Shively of Elkhart County. To them were born twelve children. One daughter, Cora, was for years a mission worker in Chicago, and then spent a number of years as a missionary in China, as the wife and helper of Dr. O. G. Brubaker. Brother Cripe was a man of strong physical build, but constant heavy strain on his physical system brought his life to a close July 22, 1901. His last years were spent at Cerro Gordo, Illinois.

### CRUMRINE

This was a familiar name in the southern part of Wabash County in the earlier days.

Elder John Crumrine was born in Virginia, 1799. He moved to Darke County, Ohio, where he married Catherine Benner and was called to the ministry. Late in life he moved to Wabash County, where he was the first resident elder of the Wabash church. He died in



1884, with R. H. Miller preaching the funeral. He left two sons who were ministers.

Jacob was born in 1835 and married Lucinda Jones in 1857. He was elected deacon in 1866, minister in 1872, and ordained 1889. He was very zealous as a preacher and took an interest in the missionary activities in the district. He contracted a cold while engaged in preaching services which caused his death in 1890. He preached many funerals. His wife survived him some twenty years.

Noah, an elder brother of Jacob, was born in 1833 and died in 1916. He was a minister for over fifty years and an elder for more than forty years. He was elder of his home church, Wabash, for twenty-five years.

A brother of Elder John, Jacob Crumrine, was also a minister. He preached but little, his favorite themes being taken from Revelation.

Gale D. Crumrine, also a member of this family, is a young minister whose home is in Wabash.

#### **R. W. DAVENPORT**

R. W. Davenport, a deacon in the Rock Run congregation, owned and lived on the Jacob Berkey farm just across the road from the church. He served as member of the Northern Indiana Mission Board from 1897 till 1911. The last few years of his life were spent in California, where he died.



**Elder W. R. Deeter and Wife**



**Elder Manly Deeter and Wife**



**WILLIAM AND MANLY DEETER**

In the history of Indiana there are a number of instances on record where father and son labor in the ministry together. But there are few cases where this has occurred so happily as in the case of William Deeter and his son, Manly.

William R. Deeter, son of John and Sarah Reed Deeter, was born in Miami County, Ohio, January 1, 1840. He began teaching at the age of 18. He attended Antioch College at Yellow Springs, Ohio. He taught school ten years in Ohio and eight years after coming to Indiana. He was married to Sarah Sipes September 30, 1860. To them were born three sons, Edward, Manly and John. In 1866 they moved to Delaware County and settled on a farm south of Eaton. In 1871 they located five miles north of Muncie.

In March, 1871, Brother Deeter was called to the ministry in the Mississinewa church. Three years later he was ordained to the full ministry. He did a great deal of evangelistic work, both in Ohio and in Indiana. During his later years of ministerial work in Southern Indiana he became a recognized leader in the district.

In 1881 he moved into the Solomon's Creek church, Northern Indiana, locating three miles southeast of Milford. He was in the south part of the district. Since the members here now had a minister, a movement was soon on foot for a separate organization. As a result Bethel congregation was organized in 1884. For more than thirty years he was its faithful servant, acting most of the time as presiding elder. His work did not stop at this, but he had charge of other churches at times: Pine Creek, Bethany, Washington, Yellow River, Ft. Wayne and Markle.

In Northern Indiana he was a recognized leader. For years he was moderator of their District Meetings. He represented his District eight times on Standing Committee. He was reading clerk of the Conference once and was moderator at Naperville, Illinois, in 1898. Few men have served on more committees than he. For this work he had a special fitness. He was a far-seeing, cool-headed thinker. Neither the most trying circumstances nor perplexing problems could prevent his taking a good night's sleep. This partly explains the remarkable preservation of his physical powers. He was a constant reader on all questions of the day. He excelled in profitable and interesting conversation. Neither young nor old need spend any tiresome hours in his presence.

His faithful companion for over fifty years departed this life in June, 1912. It was at the time of the York Conference. He was to have been a member of the Standing Committee. The prayer of that great meeting went up to the throne of grace in his behalf. In 1914 he was again married, to Sister Maria Eikenberry, a widow living at



West Alexandria, Ohio. She was called from his side January 25, 1917. He survived but a few years.

Manly Deeter, son of W. R. and Sarah Deeter, was born near Pleasant Hill, Ohio, January 29, 1865 and later came with his parents to Delaware County, Indiana, and then to Kosciusko County. He was married to Ida Hoover, August 4, 1884. The preceding January they were baptized by his father.

January 29, 1896 he was elected deacon. March 26, 1897, he was called to the ministry, advanced a year later, and ordained March 28, 1901. For many years he was colaborer with his father in the ministry in the Bethel church.

During part of this time he was engaged in outside work. He served as Moderator of District Meeting five times, three times as Reading Clerk, twice when his father was moderator; five times he represented his district on Standing Committee; several times he served on important Annual Meeting committees. He was elder of the Bethel church for sixteen years, and of the New Salem church from its organization for about 15 years. He was also elder of several other churches for short periods of time. He always served in the free ministry, though in the later years he helped to support a pastor in his home church.

From 1909 to 1915 he was trustee of Manchester College. In the work of the school he has taken much interest. For three years he was a member of the executive board as field representative. During this time he raised thousands of dollars for the improvement of the institution.

Brother and Sister Deeter lived together for nearly 55 years, she passing on in January 19, 1939. They had three children but only one grew to maturity. This daughter, Amanda, married a young minister, Raleigh Neff, and they have since their marriage always lived in the Bethany church.

After his wife's death, Brother Deeter became much interested in traveling about and preaching in out of the way places, and establishing missions. One such place was in Upper Michigan, in the Ozark church. He was with them for a couple of years until they got on their feet and he left them in a flourishing condition. Then in 1942 he went to the mountains of Kentucky and established a mission at Creekville. He has remained there much of the time since. They now have five preaching places there; more than eighty have been baptized, and the work is most encouraging.

At the age of 85 he is still active in the Lord's work, traveling about a good deal, preaching as he can, and encouraging others.





**Elder David Dilling and Wife**

The Dillings were among the earliest settlers in the Monticello church. Elder David was the son of George B. and Margaret Dilling and was born in Blair County, Pennsylvania in 1859. He died in 1914. His father came to Indiana when he was five, locating in Carroll County. In 1880 David was married to Emma Wilson. They had four sons and two daughters. The wife died in 1897 and he married Rosa Dilling in 1898.

David Dilling united with the church at nineteen, was called to the ministry at twenty-six, and to the eldership at thirty-seven. He became elder of his home church in 1898 and remained in charge till his death in 1914. He also had the oversight of two other congregations and was active in district affairs. Three times he represented Middle Indiana on the Standing Committee. His early death was keenly felt in the community and the church where he had become a patriarch, often consulted on many personal problems.

His son, Roy, is a minister, elder, and businessman, as well as an accomplished musician. He lived at North Manchester for many years where he was in business and also on the faculty of the college for several years. He lives at West Palm Beach, Florida.



**EILER**

An early deacon in the Nettle Creek church was Samuel Eiler. He was born in Quebec province, Canada. His father was a member of the Brethren in colonial days. Being true to his peace principles during the Revolution, he was forced to flee to Canada. Here Samuel was born in 1791. They moved to near Dayton, Ohio, then to Hagerstown, Indiana.

Samuel was married to Susannah Snyder while in Ohio. The Nettle Creek church was built on his land. He was a deacon for over fifty years. He lived near the church and lodged many ministers and other travelling Brethren. He died in 1875.

His son, Samuel, served for a period in the ministry at Beaver Dam and Nettle Creek but was later relieved. His grandson, Calvin F., was called to the ministry in the Prairie Creek church in 1886. He lived in several congregations including West Manchester and Roann. His son, William, was a minister and preached in the West. Calvin Eiler died about 1923 or 1924. Austin Eiler, minister, has lived at Nampa, Idaho, for many years.

**JESSE EISENHOUR**

Jesse Eisenhower was born Oct. 19, 1880 near Plymouth, Ind. He united with the church early in life and was elected as deacon in the Union Center Church in 1906. He has always been active in the Sunday School and church. In the district he was a member of the Brethren Service Committee from its beginning until recently and has been unusually active in promoting the work. He is also a member of the Trustee Board for the Mexico Welfare Home.

**ELDON EVANS**

One of the leading men in the church in Northern Indiana at the present time is Eldon Evans. He was born in Elkhart County, Ind. April 7, 1900, and has always lived in the same county. He attended grade school and High School in New Paris and has taught there for more than thirty years. His parents were Charles and Lillie (Burtsfield) Evans; he was baptized by Elder Charles Arnold in 1915. On May 3, 1922 he was united in marriage with Viola Richards, to whom was born one daughter, Esther. He graduated from Manchester College in 1933 with the B.S. degree, and in 1939 from Indiana University with the Master's degree; he has also 14 semester hours credit toward the doctor's degree in education.

He was licensed to the ministry in 1939 and ordained to the eldership in 1941. He has always served his home congregation in the free ministry, being elder in charge since 1942, also serving as elder in eight or ten surrounding congregations at various times. He has served his





**Eldon Evans**

home congregation as delegate to Annual Conference several times and three times on Standing Committee. He served Northern Indiana six years on the District Board of Christian Education and six years on the Mission-Ministerial Board. Was Director of Camp Mack for 9 years; was moderator of District Conference, also. He is always a wise counsellor, and since he has been Principal of the New Paris High School for many years, he has wielded a tremendous influence in the town and community, as well as in the church and district he loves.

### **JOSEPH EARL FISHER**

Joseph Earl Fisher was the son of John and Lulu (Barnhart) Fisher; born at Flora, Indiana, February 18, 1896. Most of his life before marriage was spent in Carroll County. On December 24, 1916, he married Emma Wagoner, daughter of David and Mary Wagoner of the Fairview church, Southern Indiana. The Fishers have lived in Tippecanoe County all the time since as faithful members of that church. They have a daughter, Marjorie (Dunk), and a son, Glen. The children live on the home farms which they operate. Joe, as he is commonly called, has been a prominent layman in Southern Indiana. He has led the Men's Work as president for a number of years. He has served on the board of directors of Camp Alexander Mack for ten years and has been president of that board for more than two years.

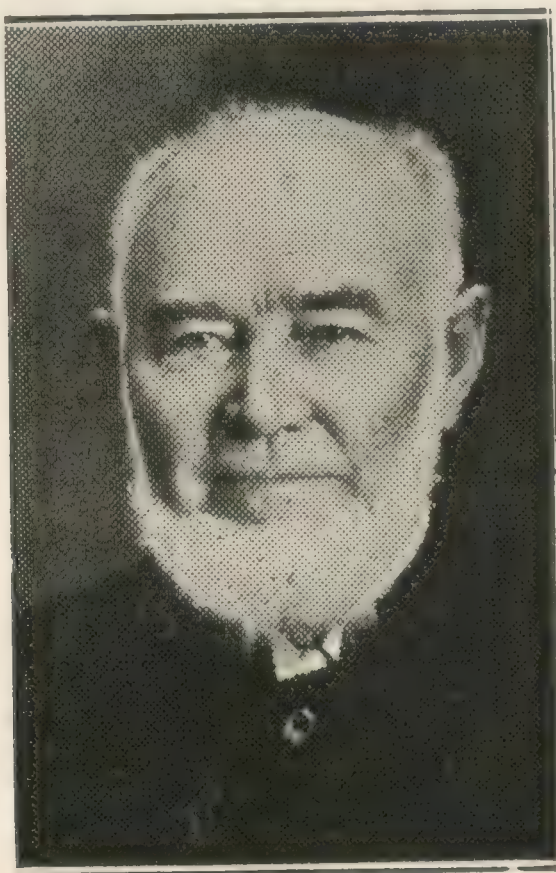


In 1951 he was chosen to represent his district on the board of the Mexico Welfare Home and is now on its executive committee. He is a willing, generous, and efficient layman.

### **FRANK FISHER**

Frank Fisher was the eldest son of Benjamin and Lydia Fisher. He was born near Camden, November 29, 1856. Of German stock, from Virginia, his grandfather, Davis Fisher, was the first minister of the Monticello church. Frank's father died when he was eleven. His mother had to depend much upon this, her eldest, son. He attended the elementary schools and managed to save enough money to pay his expenses at the Monticello High School. He spent eleven years teaching.

In 1881 he married Lillie Reiff, of Burnettsville, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Reiff. They were engaged in farming for eight years. He was called to the ministry in 1882. His superior education and abilities soon attracted attention and he was called to take charge of



**Elder Frank Fisher**

the Old Folks' and Orphans' Home at Mexico, 1889. For thirteen years they had direct charge and for many years helped in the many times when a matron or superintendent was needed. The orphans remembered them as "Papa and Mama Fisher."

Bro. Fisher was ordained in 1898 and served as elder of his church till 1921. He also had charge of other churches, including Huntington City, Pipe Creek, and Manchester.

Bro. Fisher was the Superintendent of the first Sunday school organized in the Mexico church, 1891, meeting at 3 p.m. He organized a Sunday school at the country house, also.



For many years Bro. Fisher was one of the outstanding leaders in the Brotherhood, as well as in his district.

He was frequently moderator in Middle Indiana and was once moderator of the Annual Meeting (1914). He served on numerous boards and committees, preached many series of meetings and funeral sermons. For many years, after his active period, he was a patriarchal figure at church gatherings. Just his presence was a benediction to the Church. He died about 1943 or 1944.



**Seven sons of Peter Fisher**  
**George                  Benjamin                  Joseph**  
**Isaac                  Aaron**  
**Noah                          Jacob**

### **PETER FISHER**

This man was the ancestor of a very large family. Born in Virginia in 1792, he married Elizabeth Brower and moved to Preble County, Ohio in 1828. In 1836 he came to Miami County and settled



one mile north of Mexico. He and his wife were the pioneer members of that congregation. Here they lived under frontier conditions. They drove to Michigan City for salt, at sixteen dollars a barrel. He was a deacon and passed away in 1879.

These good people had ten children, seven sons and three daughters. One daughter married Elder Jacob Barnhart, another married Elder David Neff. This woman was the mother of Elder J. Henry Neff and of the wife of Elder Dorsey Hodgden. The third daughter married Stephen Rush, of a family in the local church. The Jacob Barnharts had a son, Henry, who was a Congressman.

Of the sons, George had three sons who were preachers, all in other churches than the Brethren. Ira, Toney, and Bertha were grandchildren of George.

Another son of Peter was Benjamin, who raised a large family. His granddaughter married Charles Ronk, a Brethren minister. A son, William, was killed in 1915 by an angry bull. He was a highly respected man in the community.

Peter's sons Joseph and Aaron had families, most of them were not members of the Church of the Brethren.

The three sons of Peter who were ministers were Isaac, Noah, and Jacob. Isaac was called to the ministry at Mexico in 1858 and ordained 1867. For many years he held joint oversight of the church with his brother-in-law, Jacob Barnhart. He was a good preacher and a man of fine influence. He was on the Standing Committee in 1885. He died in the new churchhouse in 1890, just as he was opening the meeting. His son, Irvin, was an elder in the home church. A grandson, Kearney Eikenberry, is a minister living at Peru. Enos Fisher was a minister in the Old Order Brethren church.

Jacob Fisher was a deacon, minister, and elder in the Mexico church till his death, 1897. His son, Elder Silas Fisher served as pastor at Peru for a time.

Noah Fisher was a deacon, minister (1870), and elder (1885) in the Mexico church, but he labored in the Huntington City and Andrews churches, as well as having lived at Roann for a time.

This unusual family seemed to have the gift of preaching. Including the men married into the family, the Peter Fisher family had twenty-four ministers in 1916. This is a unique record indeed.

### **HIRAM FORNEY**

The famous "Forney" family has a representative in Indiana in Elder Hiram Forney. His parents were Daniel and Anna Koontz Forney. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, January 26, 1852, and came with his parents to Elkhart County at the age of 15. At the age of 21 he was married to Chloe Shaffer. They were the parents



of one daughter and four sons, the daughter passing away at an early age.

Brother and Sister Forney united with the church in 1878. The next year he served as Sunday School superintendent. In 1881 he was elected as deacon. Soon after he became a member of the Mission Board of Northern Indiana and for several years he was active in the mission work in Northern Indiana. In 1883 he was called to the ministry. In 1894 he began the work in the city of Goshen. The work in the city continued to grow until a house was erected in 1899. The year before this Brother Forney left the farm and located in Goshen. He was ordained to the eldership in 1902, shortly before he went to Amwell, New Jersey, where he spent two years as pastor of the church. During 1906-1907 he was resident pastor at Ft. Wayne. He then went to Chico, California, where he was the means of building up a congregation and of the erection of a house of worship, which was built largely by his own hands.

After five years' labor he spent another two years in Goshen and again went west to Denver, Colorado, taking charge of the mission for eighteen months. The high altitude of this location did not agree with him so he again sought his Indiana home, locating in West Goshen, where he passed away in 1929. His skill as a carpenter and painter often helped him to a living while preaching the Gospel.



**Elder D. B. Garber and Wife**

David Benjamin Garber was born near Dayton, Ohio, on March 28, 1865. His parents were Christian M. and Mary M. Garber, who had come west from Virginia as refugees during the Civil War. After the war they returned to their former home near Bridgewater,



and there D. B. grew up. In 1885 he received a B. E. degree from Bridgewater College and later studied in Valparaiso University. For six years he taught in the public schools of Virginia and Maryland. In 1893 he married Della Tinkle of Landisville, Indiana; to them were born seven children. Elected to the ministry in 1896 and advanced to the eldership in 1901, he supplied various churches as periodic preacher, while employed as private secretary of Governor George Steele of the Soldiers' Home at Marion. One year was spent on a farm near Brethren, Michigan. In 1906 the family moved to Markle, Indiana. For fifteen years he was pastor of the Markle church, for five years of the Pleasant Grove church near Liberty Center, and for five years of the Pleasant Dale church near Decatur, while farming and working for the Markle State Bank and the Majenica Telephone Company. He served many years as a member of the Middle Indiana mission board, was a trustee of Manchester College for twelve years, and was a member of Standing Committee a number of times. His service to the church was rendered almost exclusively in Middle Indiana. He died on December 12, 1937.

#### **MARGUERITE BIXLER GARRETT**

The subject of this sketch was born to Elder and Sis. William Bixler, of Hartville, Ohio. From childhood she had a great passion for music. She and two sisters gave over three hundred public musical recitals. She declined to go on the stage, feeling that was not the place for her.

She came into the church while leading the singing for I. D. Parker in a series of meetings. She entered Mt. Morris College for further preparation. She soon became head of the music department, which place she held for three years. When Manchester College opened in 1895, she became the first music director. She became a very widely known director of congregational singing. In 1906 she visited the Holy Land which was a great inspiration to her.

While on her trip abroad she met O. D. Garrett of near Bluffton, Indiana. They were married in 1908 and have lived in Wells County for many years, in the Prairie Creek church. That church gave her the authority to preach. For a number of years she took great interest in district and general meetings, often serving as a delegate. She has served many groups outside of her own church.

#### **GOSHORN**

Robert R. Goshorn was called to the ministry in 1870. Later he was ordained and had charge of the Lick Creek congregation. He was a leader in the district, serving on the Standing Committee in 1892.



In 1903, while on his way to church he died very suddenly.

Robert R. and Julia Ann Sommers Goshorn had five sons, of whom three were ministers. B. F. Goshorn was called in 1885 and ordained in 1910. His work was mostly done in his home church, Lick Creek (Maple Grove).

G. V. Goshorn was called to the ministry in 1887. In 1892 he graduated from the academy at Mt. Morris College. He taught country schools ten years and then became a superintendent of Indian schools in the West. He travelled in all the States, Canada, and Europe. His life was ended by cancer in 1910. His last days were full of suffering but also full of faith and hope.

Ezra N. Goshorn spent many years in his educational preparation, receiving his A. B. and M. A. degrees from Depauw University. He edited a Clay City paper and taught a year in Mt. Morris College. He married Lulu, daughter of M. R. Harshbarger, and settled on a farm near Ladoga. Here he was called to the ministry in 1900, and ordained in 1908. He was elder of the Ladoga, (1909-1930), and the Mt. Pleasant, (1909-1911), churches. He passed away April 15, 1930.

### GUMP

There are a few men in any community or organization who would stand out prominently wherever they were placed. God has given them the qualities of leadership. To this class belongs Elder Jeremiah Gump. He was born in Miami County, Ohio, May 7, 1829. At the age of 21 he married Sarah Shultz, of Huntingdon, Pennsylvania. In 1853 they moved to Allen County, Indiana. Here they cleared out of the wilderness a home for themselves and their ten children. One of the first ministers of the Church of the Brethren to preach in this vicinity was Elder George W. Studebaker, of Delaware County, Indiana. Under his preaching Brother and Sister Gump were converted and baptized, June 21, 1854. The same fall he and his brother Jacob were called to the ministry. Though his education was limited and his home duties many, he took great interest in his work and proved faithful to his holy calling. He was advanced in 1857 and ordained in 1862.

The field into which he had been called to work was a large one. It comprised almost the whole northeastern corner of the state. Elder Gump was equal in zeal and spirit for the work. He did preaching all over this territory and many were baptized. No weather was too bad and no roads too rough or muddy for him to go to his appointment. In the territory of his labors there are now a number of active congregations. He served as presiding elder of several congregations, and took an active part in the work of his district. Twice he represented Northern Indiana on Standing Committee.

When the membership grew and the congregations were organized





**Elder Jeremiah Gump and Wife**

separately he became the bishop of the Pleasant Hill organization and remained its faithful shepherd for forty years. He had the pleasure of seeing nearly all of his family in the church that he loved. Before he died there sat with him in the ministers' stand his son, Elder Jesse Gump, and his two grandsons, Charles O. Gump and Elmer E. Pepple. Nothing seemed to please him so much as to see the children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren give their hearts to Christ.

In his home community Elder Gump had a great influence. He visited the sick, anointed many and preached many funerals. He had a very friendly nature, which won for him many friends. He was a great lover of children and took a kindly interest in all their welfare. His friends were always welcome to his home. He was a master of pleasant and profitable conversation. He was a large man, weighing 200 pounds, of fine physical appearance. He was erect, quick and firm of step, showing energy and enthusiasm in every movement. He was one of those men whose physical and spiritual characteristics cause you to feel better for having come in touch with them.

A few words should be said concerning his faithful wife. They lived together sixty-two years, fifty-nine of which were spent on the





**Arlo Gump**

same farm. He always gave much credit for his success to her faithful service and encouragement. While he was away on preaching tours she bravely met the difficulties at home, and fully shared with him in every trial and difficulty he was called on to endure. All that knew Grandma Gump loved her.

Brother Gump always enjoyed good health. His last sickness was of only a few hours duration. He passed away November 18, 1912 at the ripe age of 82. Elder George L. Studebaker officiated at his funeral. Many were sad to lose so noble a man as he, but all rejoiced in their memories of him and in the hope he had of eternal life.

Jacob Gump, brother of Jeremiah, was his faithful colaborer for more than forty years. They were elected the same day, and later advanced and ordained together. He married Sarah Detrick and raised a family of eight children. Though he was not so widely known as his brother Jeremiah, yet he was a faithful servant at home. When the original Cedar Creek church was divided into four parts, in 1870, he was given the oversight of three of them.

Jesse Gump, son of Jeremiah and Sarah Gump, was born in 1869. He married Mary Shively in 1892. He was called to the ministry in 1898 and ordained in 1905 by W. R. Deeter and Daniel Rothenberger. His service has been in the Pleasant Hill church except one year at Seattle, Washington. He engaged with success in evangelistic efforts. For a number of years he has lived in Churubusco. His wife passed away several years ago. In 1948 his home church held a special observance of fifty years in the ministry for Brother Gump. He now



lives a retired life though frequently exercises in preaching.

Charles O. Gump, son of Albert N. and Lydia Jane Gump, and grandson of Jeremiah Gump, was born October 8, 1879. He was married to Gertrude McBride, September 28, 1901 to whom were born three daughters and two sons. He was called to the ministry October 22, 1910, later advanced and ordained November 7, 1931. Most of his ministerial labors were given in the Pleasant Hill church of which he was elder for some years. After retiring from railway service in which he engaged for many years, he with his wife moved to New Paris where he now lives. A daughter, Edith, became the wife of Dr. Howard Bosler, and they have spent several terms of service on the African Mission field where they live at Garkida, Nigeria. A son, Arlo, was born July 7, 1909. He was married to Dorothy C. Hostetter, August 14, 1935, to whom were born two daughters. Arlo was licensed to the ministry and advanced May 21, 1944, and ordained November 21, 1948. He served his district on Standing Committee in 1949. He has been District and Regional Director of Young People for several years, and is especially active in camp work. He received his Bachelor Degree at Manchester College and his Master's Degree at the University of Wisconsin. He has been a teacher in High School but is now engaged in insurance work.



**Sarah Heebner Halladay**



**SARAH HEEBNER HALLADAY**

Sister Halladay was born in 1900 at Lansdale, Pennsylvania. She attended Westchester State Teachers College, Penn State College and Bethany Seminary. In 1926 she was married to Paul Halladay whom she met at Bethany. She has lived in North Manchester since 1928.

Among her many activities, Sister Halladay has been a member of the General Brotherhood Board since 1947; District (Middle Indiana) Children's Director from 1931-1943; and Board of Christian Education, same district, for eight years and secretary thereof five of the eight years.

She was the president of the W. C. T. U. of Indiana for seven years and is now National Director of Spiritual Life of this organization. She has also been county chairman of the W. C. T. U. She has spoken on temperance or children's work in every church in Middle Indiana and in many outside. She has spoken for the W. C. T. U. in conventions and in other places over many parts of the United States. She is not only an outstanding woman of the churches of Indiana but of the entire Brotherhood.

**HIEL HAMILTON**

This strong leader was born in New York, 1811, of Baptist parents. When quite young, the family moved to Fayette County where frontier conditions prevailed. His mother died when Hiel was twelve and he lived six years in Union County with friends. In 1830 he married Nancy Kingery.

In 1831 this couple united with the Brethren in the Four Mile congregation. Showing evidence of deep spiritual power, he was called to the ministry in 1845. The next year he moved to Howard County, within the bounds of the Bachelor Run church. Here in a backwoods area he began to preach the Gospel. Although he had little education, he had a good mind, read widely, and was soon recognized as the ablest preacher of the area.

In 1852 the Howard church was organized and Bro. Hamilton was ordained there in 1856. For many years he labored there, building up one of the strongest churches of Southern Indiana. In 1880 his wife died and he married Mary Crull, of Flora, in 1881. They lived in Flora but in his last years he lived with a daughter, the wife of George Brubaker. He died in 1897.

He was often moderator at district meetings and served his district four times on Standing Committees. He attended twenty-one Annual Meetings. He was a highly respected man who spared nothing to tell the story of the Cross. It is not surprising that this man, so full



**Hiel Hamilton**

of missionary zeal, had a grandson, Dr. O. G. Brubaker, who went to China as a medical missionary.

### **DAVID HARDMAN**

David Hardman was born in 1797 and died in 1863. He had been a member of the church for forty-three years and a minister for thirty-four years. He was a well-read man and, in excellent English, gave forceful expositions of the Scriptures. A man of good judgment, he was often placed on committees by the Annual Meeting. He served on Standing Committee once. He took a great interest in children, among whom was Lewis Teeter, who later recalled the inspiration he received from this good man. His wife, Susannah, was a saintly woman. They had no children. He was a brother of the grandfather of Elder D. R. Hardman, who lived at Warren.

Bro. Hardman died of pneumonia, brought on by a cold contracted while on the trip to Conference in Pennsylvania that year. Many came to the funeral in the Nettle Creek church. He was the third presiding elder of Nettle Creek, having succeeded Benjamin Bowman when the latter moved to Mississinewa in 1850.





**Elder W. R. Harshbarger and Wife**

### **WILLIAM R. HARSHBARGER**

Bro. Harshbarger was born in Montgomery County in 1839, to Samuel and Elizabeth Harshbarger. William married Anna Peffley in 1863. A sister of William was the first wife of Elder R. H. Miller.

William and Anna Harshbarger had three sons and two daughters. Both daughters married men who were ministers: Elders H. H. Keim and Lynn Gnagey. Two grandsons have served in the ministry in Indiana: Albert Harshbarger, son of John and Lillus, is a leader in Southern Indiana today and Howard H. Keim, Jr. served at the Huntington and Rock Run churches. A granddaughter, Annie Keim, married C. Ray Keim, who is a minister and teacher at North Manchester. Another granddaughter, Esther Keim, married D. Stanley Houser of Pine Creek church who has been a teacher in Bridgewater College and is now a practicing physician in his home community. Two other grandsons, Richard and Stanley Keim, of Nampa, Idaho, are very active laymen and widely known in the Brotherhood.

In 1867, Bro. Harshbarger was called to the ministry and was ordained in 1880. For about thirty years, till 1909, he remained the active shepherd of the Ladoga church. He was active in the district, serving as moderator and on the Standing Committee, as well as in numerous other capacities. He had the oversight of several churches in his district at times and did much preaching at mission points in his dis-

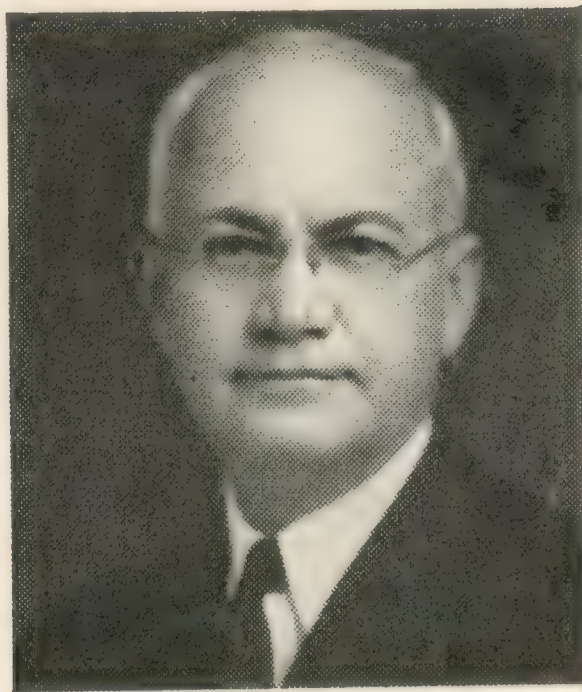


trict. He passed away in 1922 and his companion survived him a few years, when she passed away at nearly ninety.

### **HARVEY L. HARTSOUGH**

Harvey L. Hartsough was born to Joseph and Salome Geyer Hartsough in Elkhart County, February 18, 1883. In 1907 he married Ida Mathews (deceased), of Leesburg and Clara Culler in 1918. There are five daughters in the family.

Brother Hartsough attended the public schools of Elkhart County and Manchester College. He spent sixteen years teaching in his home county. He served the Turkey Creek Church in the free ministry, 1907-



**Harvey L. Hartsough**

1920. Then he began a successful series of pastorates: Salamonie, 1920-25; Chicago First Church, 1925-29; Manchester, 1929-43. He then became Secretary of the General Ministerial and Home Missions Board, 1943-48. One of his services during this period was a greatly appreciated ministry of visitation to the men in military camps. In 1948 Brother Hartsough came back to Middle Indiana and has served there as District Field Secretary.

Brother Hartsough has become known throughout the Brotherhood for his fine spirit and great administrative capacities. He has appeared on many conference programs and in numerous institutes, camps, etc. He has rendered a great service to younger ministers through his encouragement and counsel. At present he is rendering a very valuable service to Middle Indiana. He has on many occasions participated in interdenominational conferences and is highly respected outside his own church.

### **WILLIAM HATCHER**

The subject of this sketch came to Indiana from Virginia at the age of twenty-one. He soon married Ella Dawson. They were mem-



bers of the Methodist Church and he preached in that denomination for eight years. In 1893, they were baptized by Elder George L. Studebaker, in the Mississinewa River when it was twenty-two degrees below zero. They soon moved from the Somerset church to the Howard church. Here he was called to the ministry in 1895. He later served Adamsboro, Somerset, Portland, Summitville, and Rossville. He held many series of meetings. In 1915 he represented Southern Indiana on the Standing Committee. He passed away on September 5, 1926.

### **E. L. HEESTAND**

E. L. Heestand was a native of Wayne County, Ohio, and was born December 8, 1870. He was the son of George and Christina Heestand. He was baptized in the Wooster church February 9, 1885 by Elder D. M. Irvin. He was married to Saloma Lehman April 2, 1896. While living in the Nappanee church he took a great deal of interest in the Sunday School. October 21, 1899 he was called to the ministry in the Baugo congregation. Soon after he moved to Elkhart City, where he was advanced to the second degree in June, 1900. He was ordained in the Elkhart Valley church in December, 1906 by Elders I. D. Parker and J. H. Miller. He served as minister at Ft. Wayne for one year and was at the Elkhart City church for thirteen years. While working as a carpenter much of the time to support his family, he also found time to hold a number of series of meetings, with good results.

In 1916, when the new organization was effected in Plymouth, he was called to the pastorate and moved his family there. He was one of the aggressive men of his district which he represented on the Standing Committee twice.

Brother and Sister Heestand raised a family of five children. The oldest daughter, Cora, distinguished herself in High School, winning the State contest for the best essay on Peace. She later married Brother E. R. Fisher, a minister who distinguished himself as a pastor in Southern Ohio. Sister Fisher is now National President of the Women's Work Organization. In 1918 Brother Heestand moved to the Salomonie congregation as pastor, where he died in 1920. He was much loved by everyone who knew him.

### **GORMAN B. HEETER**

Bro. Heeter was born near North Manchester in 1858, son of John C. and Elizabeth Burkett Heeter. He married Rachel Fanning, 1879. Called to the ministry in 1887 and advanced in 1889. He was one of the founders of Manchester College under the Church of the Brethren, 1895, making a considerable sacrifice. Later he moved to Huntington where he was pastor of the city church one year. Then he moved to Burnettsville (Burnetts' Creek). He was pastor and elder of



that church for twenty-five years, 1900-1925. He engaged successfully in fruit-growing and became widely known for his speaking on that subject. He died 1931. He performed many marriages and officiated at eight hundred funerals. He was a man of strong convictions, faith, and sense of duty, a master of his work and a leader of men.

George U. Heeter was born near Roann, Wabash Co. June 4, 1905. He graduated with the A. B. degree from Manchester College in 1927 and with the M. S. degree from Indiana University in 1940. Has taught school in both Middle and Northern Indiana for the past twenty years. He married Martha Gerber in 1928. They have two children, both in Manchester College. He united with the church at eleven years of age and was elected to the deacon's office in 1933. Has always been active in the local church and Sunday School. Was a member of the Dist. Y. P. Cabinet in Middle Indiana; in Northern Indiana was a member of the Dist. Men's Work Cabinet, has been director of Camp Mack for a number of years. (For Mrs. Heeter see page 480).



**LEMUEL HILLERY**

Brother Lemuel Hillery, a widely-known elder and preacher, died in his home in West Goshen, Indiana, August 30, 1914; he was buried a few days later, Brother W. R. Deeter preaching his funeral. In compliance with his request he was buried before the funeral service was held. He was, indeed, a unique preacher, and when at his best often



delivered addresses that commanded respect as well as the best attention. He was always in dead earnest and it is said that no one slept when Brother Hillery preached.

Brother Hillery was born near Frederick City, Maryland, May 14, 1843. When about 13 years old he came to Lee County, Illinois. At 19 he entered the army and received injuries that made him a cripple all his life. At times his sufferings were intense. At the age of 23, while living in Iowa, he united with the church, and was called to the ministry a few months later. He spent a number of years in Northern Illinois, and engaged actively in mission work. A few years were devoted to work in Kansas, and a few in Southern Missouri, but the later years of his life were spent in Indiana. In spite of his crippled condition he did a great deal of traveling and preaching, and had a number of warm friends. On the other hand he had bitter enemies. His manner of denouncing the secret lodges and exposing popular sins generally made both friend and enemy. He was no policy man, nor was he a diplomat. He was straight-out Lemuel Hillery, standing like a wall in defense of New Testament Christianity, and defying every phase of opposition in sight. Yet his heart was tender. He loved his family, his friends, the church and those in need of sympathy. Could he have combined diplomacy with his marvelous ability as a speaker and reasoner, he would have had few, if any, equals among us as a leader. Still he left his mark, and by his strong personality made impressions that will not soon be forgotten. His was an unusual career, and a well arranged sketch of his experiences would make interesting reading.

### MARY L. HIMES

Mary L. Harshbarger was born near Ladoga in 1833, the youngest of a family of ten. She married Daniel L. Himes in 1850. Two years later they united with the church, baptized by Elder Elias Caylor.

Her life was typical of the early American mother in the new West. Surrounded by her children, her loom, her spinning wheel, and thrilled by the songs of the birds, she found life rich. Once she took in five motherless children of a relative when their mother died, until they could be placed in good homes. She had twelve children, eleven growing to maturity. These capable and respected children could truly "arise and call her blessed."

Her home was always open to visiting or travelling Brethren. Once she fed forty while they waited for a train that was late. She was a ministering angel of mercy, comfort, and cheer when birth or death, or sickness occurred. She met life's sorrows bravely. In her declining days, in a wheel-chair, she showed no trace of bitterness but kept busy sewing for the poor or making much appreciated gifts for her friends. In her old age, as in her days of vigor and activity, she was a benedic-



tion to all who knew her. Perhaps the finest testimony of the church is found in these lives which so beautifully demonstrate what God can do with a man or woman if they let Him have His way with them.

#### **DORSEY HODGDEN**

Born to Elder Sidney Hodgden in 1855, in Union County, Ohio, his family moved to Missouri and later to Kansas. His mother was the daughter of Elder H. D. Davy, a well-known elder in Ohio.

Dorsey Hodgden united with the church early in 1874. In the fall he was called to the ministry, at nineteen. In 1875 he came to the Roann church and married Martha Neff in 1878. They moved to Clear Creek the same year and resided there for thirty-four years, raising a family of five children.

In 1882 he was ordained to the eldership by R. H. Miller and Samuel Murray. At once he was made presiding elder of Clear Creek and held that position for thirty years. He spent twenty successful years in evangelistic work. He was well-known in the district and served on the Standing Committee twice. For some years he was elder of the Markle church. He was the pioneer in starting the work in the city of Huntington. In 1913 he moved to Dayton, Ohio. He died there in 1939.



#### **RALPH W. HOFFMAN**

Born to Ezra and Lydia Ann Dewald Hoffman at Roann April 19, 1895, Brother Hoffman was baptized by Elder C. C. Miller, 1920.



He married Tressie M. Heeter in 1920. They have four children, three of whom are or have been in Manchester College. He was called to the ministry in 1937, and the eldership in 1947.

Brother Hoffman has been a successful school teacher for over thirty-six years, the last twenty-five having been in Miami County. He graduated from Manchester College in 1931 and received his Master's degree in 1940 from Indiana University. For the past twelve years he has served the Cart Creek Church as pastor. He is also a farmer and has served in several capacities in district affairs.



**Elder L. T. Holsinger and Wife**

### **L. T. HOLSINGER**

Bro. Holsinger was born eight miles south of Muncie, 1850, to John and Sarah Teeter Holsinger. He attended the elementary schools, high school, and a business school. At twenty-five he joined the Methodists and preached for them two years. A year later he joined the Brethren (1878) in the Bethel church, Nebraska.

In 1881 he returned to Indiana and labored with the Buck Creek congregation till 1888. He was ordained there in 1885. He and Elder David Replogle had joint oversight of the church till Bro. Holsinger moved to Ladoga in 1888. He became widely known for his evangelistic meetings and his public debates with leaders of other denominations.

He was interested in a Brethren college in Indiana and moved to North Manchester when the Brethren took over the college there in 1895. He was the chairman of the first board of trustees. He served as a trustee two years and elder of the Manchester church two years. In 1899 he moved to Pymont. He later lived at Clarkshill, Rossville, Muncie, and at Brethren, Michigan.



Bro. Holsinger was well-known throughout the Brotherhood. He served as moderator of the Annual Meeting twice and six times on the Standing Committee. He was also a member of the General Educational Board. He was one of the strongest preachers in the pulpit in his day.

He was married to Mary Kern in 1871. They had four sons and four daughters. The three eldest sons died within a period of two years, leaving families. He died 1936 or 1937.

### **GEORGE HOOVER**

George Hoover was born in Virginia in 1814 to John and Mary Kline Hoover. He married Catherine Reiff and they had seven children. In 1835 they came to Henry County where they united with the church. He was called to the ministry in the early 40's. He was the first preacher of the Upper Fall Creek church and served them nearly fifty years. He spent much of his time in pastoral care and other church responsibilities. He moved his audiences in emotional appeals. During the Civil War he was threatened because he preached peace in war-time. A fellow minister was actually shot while sitting in his home.

His preaching extended over most of Indiana and he was well-known outside the state. He served his district twice on the Standing Committee. In 1866, when the Brethren of Indiana agreed to form three districts, he moderated the meeting. He died in 1889.

His son, David F., succeeded him in his church responsibilities. Born 1846, he married Mary C. Bonslog in 1872. They had a family of seven children. He was called to the ministry in 1877 and ordained in 1885. After his father's death, 1889, he had charge of his church till his own death in 1919. He served as an officer of his district and was once Reading Clerk of Annual Meeting. He was interested in the Old Folks' and Orphans' home of his district, located in his own congregation. His wife died in 1908 and he married Minerva Haber of Ohio in 1916.

### **THURMAN A. HOPPER**

Bro. Hopper was born on a farm near Bunker Hill on January 16, 1888. He lived on a farm near Onward till 1903, when he attended school at Nead for a year. In 1904 he entered Manchester College where he became a member of the church by baptism. During the years 1904 to 1910 he was usually in school either teaching or taking more courses. His principal lines were accounting, art, and penmanship. From 1910 to 1914 he was engaged in teaching commerce in high school or business colleges. In 1909 he married Fern M. Yerkes. She died in 1916 and he married Fanny H. Myers in 1917.

Mr. Hopper began farming in 1914. He soon received recogni-





**Thurman A. Hopper**

tion as an unusually progressive and successful farmer. For ten years he was a lecturer for Purdue's Extension Service. In 1931 he was written up in the *Prairie Farmer* as a "Master Farmer." As late as 1951 he was written up in the *Farmers' Guide* as a breeder of Shropshire sheep.

But, with all his farming interests, Bro. Hopper has found time to serve the church in many ways. Much of the time he has been a teacher in or superintendent of the Sunday School. He gave a talk at the first Men's Work meeting held in Middle Indiana, at the Upper Deer Creek Church. He served seven years on the Men's Work Cabinet of his district, with Dr. O. G. Brubaker, chairman, and then became chairman for three years. He is now serving a four-year term as Trustee of the Mexico Welfare Home. In the spring of 1945 he went with a shipment of heifers to Puerto Rico. In 1949 he was a member of the Brethren Tour of Europe. He visited places where heifers had been sent and several D. P. camps. He has helped four D. P. families get settled in our country. He also has been active in Parent-Teacher Association work. He has lectured to many farmers' institutes.

#### **I. J. HOWARD**

Born in Ross County, Ohio, in 1831, Bro. Howard married Sophia Moomaw. They united with the church in 1859 and he was



made a deacon the next year.

He later moved to the Mississinewa church and was called to the ministry there in 1867. It is said he preached his first sermon two months later in a log schoolhouse four miles west of Hartford City. Soon he was preaching at several points in three counties. Very active for years in this area, he was ordained in 1881. He was at once given charge of the Summit church which he had largely built up through his efforts. In 1895 he retired from his farm and moved to Hartford City where he was living at eighty-five in 1916. He died in 1924 or 1925.

### **CALVIN HUBER**

Calvin A. Huber was born at Wawaka June 6, 1866. Here he grew to manhood and married Clara E. Swihart October 2, 1887. She was the daughter of Elder George Swihart. March 6, 1896 he was called to the ministry in the Wawaka church. In 1899 he was advanced to the second degree. In 1902 he moved to the West Goshen church, where he spent the rest of his days. In 1909 he was ordained by Frank Kreider and Hiram Krieghbaum. The following year he was placed in charge of the West Goshen church. Under his care and direction the church prospered and it now ranks second in size in the district. Brother Huber had the welfare of the church and people on his heart. They realized this, too. He was loved by all his members. Unfortunately his health was greatly impaired and his services hindered by tuberculosis until his death on November 28, 1926.

### **SOPHIE TROWEL HUFF**

Sophia Trowel Huff died in 1911 at the advanced age of ninety-one. She was born in Stark County, Ohio in 1820. She married Abram Huff in 1841 and they moved to Noble County, Indiana in 1848. She lived on the same farm till about 1902. Soon after their marriage they united with the church and Bro. Huff was elected to the deacon's office. Their home was one of the principal centers out of which came the Springfield church, organized about 1850.

Sister Huff, left an orphan, learned how to work. She was, indeed, a rugged pioneer mother of three sons and seven daughters. At her death she left nearly one hundred descendants.

One of her grandchildren was Adam Ebey, the missionary to India. Many church leaders were blessed by the hospitality of this remarkable woman.

### **GRANDMA HUFFMAN**

Otho Winger's history included a sketch of this woman, written by W. R. Miller. She lived at Warren and was then ninety-six but



still able to read her *Gospel Messenger* and still did needle work.

The fine sketch of her reveals a person who had lived a remarkable life. She raised seven children, one of whom was Lewis Huffman, elder of her home church at the time (1916). Bro. Miller pointed out that old age is not only a matter of years but one of attitudes and interests. He marvelled at this woman's keen interest in the world in which she was living and her acute memory of the world of by-gone days.



**C. RAY KEIM**

C. Ray Keim was born to Jacob S. and Caroline Snyder Keim on March 10, 1894, in Stark County, Ohio. He was baptized by A. W. Harold at the age of twelve, in Canton Center Church. He married Annie Keim at Nampa, Idaho, 1919. They have one son, John H., teaching music at Peshastin, Washington.

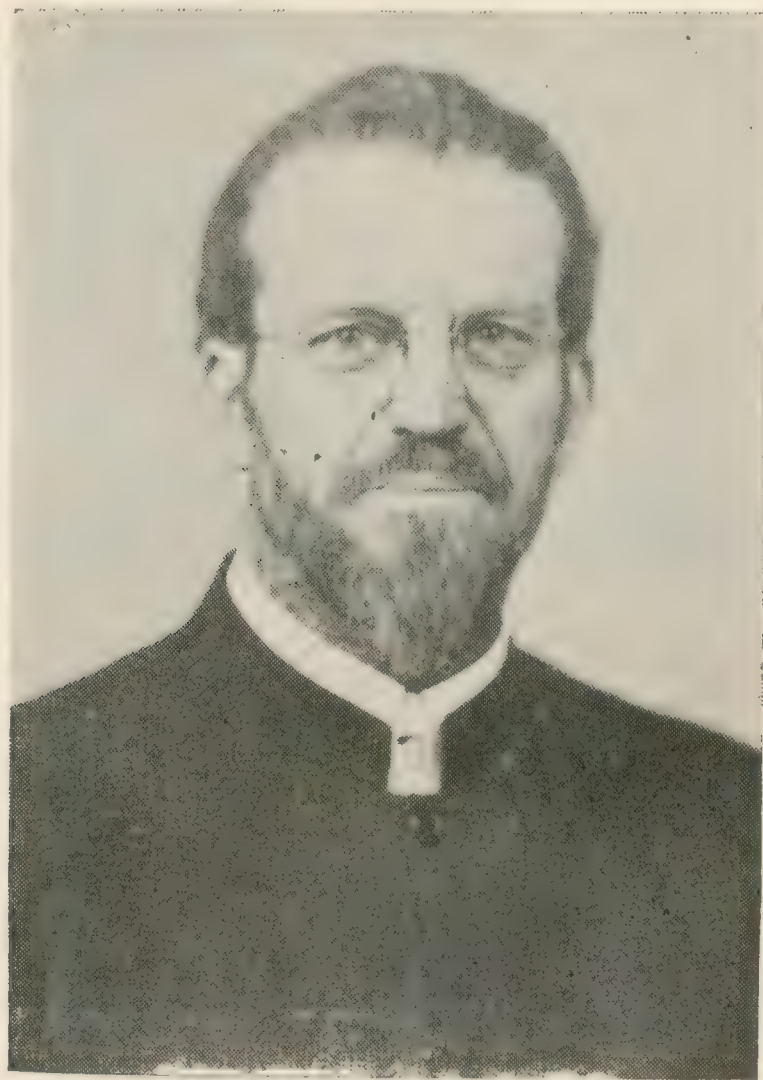
He attended the public elementary and high schools at his home in Ohio; Manchester College, A. B., 1918; McPherson College, A. M., 1923; University of Chicago, A. M., 1924, and Ph. D., 1926 (in History). He taught elementary schools three years in Ohio; in three academies and a high school, Indiana, Kansas, and Idaho, five years; Iowa State Teachers College, one year; and twenty-four years in Manchester College. He is Head of the Division of Social Sciences and Professor of History.



He was installed into the ministry at Nampa, Idaho, 1921 and ordained to the eldership at North Manchester, 1936. He has served on two Annual Meeting committees, and as reading clerk and writing clerk in Middle Indiana. His preaching has been for supply and special occasions, mostly. He is elder of the Huntington and the Andrews churches. He did much to make this history possible.

#### **CECIL KEISER**

Cecil Keiser was born in South Bend in 1909. The family soon moved to the Pine Creek congregation, where he now resides. He united with the Church of the Brethren in 1922 and was elected to the deacon's office in 1945. He graduated from Manchester College with the A. B. degree and has taught in the Lakeville High School since 1935. He has been very active in the local church and Sunday School; he represented Northern Indiana on the Trustee Board of the Mexico Welfare Home one term and is at present the secretary of the District Mission-Ministerial Board.



**EDWARD KINTNER**

Brother Kintner was born near Ney, Ohio, July 1, 1879, to B. F. and Mary Walker Kintner. He was baptized by Brother George Sellers in 1898. Called to the ministry in 1900, he was advanced to the eldership in 1912. In 1903 he married Glada Snyder. They have eight living children, seven sons and one daughter. A unique fact about this family is the number of doctors. At present there are two optome-



trists, one dentist and three medical doctors. The youngest son is entering medical school, 1951. The daughter is a dietician.

Brother Kintner was educated in the public schools of Ohio, Manchester College (A. B. Degree), Ohio State (A. M. Degree), and four or five summer sessions at Indiana University. Manchester conferred the honorary degree on him of Doctor of Science. Before he began to teach at Manchester in 1909, he had taught in elementary and high schools in Ohio from 1898 to 1902 and 1906 to 1909. At Manchester he taught in the Academy to 1912 and from that time till 1950 he was a teacher in the college.

Besides being one of the very ablest of college teachers, Brother Kintner did an amazing amount of church work along with it (to him it was not "on the side," but "along with"). He has had the oversight of at least fifteen churches, his home church at Manchester for over twenty years. He served his district on the Ministerial Mission Board from 1923 to 1949. He was twice sent by conference on special Annual Meeting Committees to churches; also, on similar committees in Northwestern Ohio and Middle Indiana, seven times he was sent to Standing Committee.

His first pastorate was at Lima, Ohio, 1902 to 1904. All of his later pastorates have been part time, with his teaching at the college. They include Blue Creek, Ohio, West Marion, Wabash City, Roann, and Pleasant View. He has held many evangelistic meetings and is engaged in one as these lines are written.

Rarely has the church been blessed with the labors of a man so able, so consecrated, so fine in spirit, so tireless in the tasks of the Kingdom.

### **CECIL J. KISTLER**

Cecil Kistler of Elkhart was born in Whitley Co. in 1901. He graduated from High School in 1919; attended Valparaiso Normal and the Indiana State Normal at Muncie; took bookkeeping at night school in Elkhart, and accounting by correspondence, receiving his C. P. A. in 1932. He was a member of the Indiana General Assembly two terms. He attended and was active in different denominations previous to his marriage to Sylvia Ulery in 1922, after which he became an active member of the Elkhart City Church, serving as S. S. secretary and in the church as trustee, financial secretary and treasurer, Pres. of Men's Work, and finally as chairman of the building committee of the new church lately dedicated. In the district he has served as President of Men's Work; was treasurer from 1929 to 1938; and member of the District Auditing Com. for a number of years. He also served as a member of the Annual Conference Auditing Committee from 1935-1949.



**JOHN W. KITSON**

John W. Kitson was one of the leaders of Northern Indiana. He was a native of Elkhart County, born in 1860. When 21 was united in marriage to Alice A. Cory. He was called to the ministry in the Solomon's Creek church May 29, 1897, advanced to the second degree in the Rock Run church June 7, 1899, and ordained in the Syracuse church December 7, 1907, by Elders I. L. Berkey and Eli Roose. Since then he had presiding charge of a number of congregations.

For two years he was pastor of the Ft. Wayne church, and for three years was pastor of the Goshen City Church. For ten years he was engaged largely in evangelistic work in Indiana and Ohio, holding no fewer than fifty series of meetings, returning to some churches as many as five times. He was a fearless exponent of the truth, and was quite successful as pastor and evangelist. He was frequently an officer at District Meeting. He was a member of Standing Committee at Harrisonburg, Virginia, in 1909. He was interested in all lines of church work. For two terms he was missionary secretary, and for some time worked the field in the interest of Manchester College. He was pastor for two years at Champaign, Illinois, and it was while he was pastor at Toledo, Ohio that he was called to his eternal home, December 2, 1922.

**JOHN KNISLEY**

February 12, 1892, Elder John Knisley closed his earthly career at the age of 76. He was born in Montgomery County, Ohio. When young he came to Elkhart County, Indiana. Here he married Margaret Bainter in 1837. To this union were born four daughters. He later moved to Marshall County, where he was for years the leading figure in the Union church. He served twelve years in the deacon's office. In 1857 he was called to the ministry, advanced the following year and ordained in 1861. Soon after he was placed in charge of the Union Church and continued its faithful and efficient bishop until advanced age made it necessary for him to turn the work over to others. This was possible, for during his charge he had been careful to train up younger men for the work.

John Knisley was one of the active men of his day. When he took charge of the Union church it numbered fifty. Before many years there were more than 200. He traveled much in unoccupied territory in the state to preach the Gospel, and often offered his services to weaker churches. He attended the Annual Conferences regularly and served on many important committees. Twice he was a member of Standing Committee. He and his wife traveled in a number of states, and he was ready at all times to preach when called upon. He was a regular contributor to the church periodicals, supporting any forward movements to build up the church.



His first wife was called home in 1871. He expressed his great loss in not having her advice and encouragement. In 1873, he was married to Rebecca Engart, whom he found a helpful companion. He spent his last days in the Pine Creek church. One of his daughters married Elder Adam Appleman, the father of Elder John Appleman, a later presiding bishop. Another daughter married Aaron Krieghbaum, whose daughter married S. F. Hendricks, also a later presiding bishop of the church.

### **FRANK KREIDER**

Frank Kreider, son of John and Eliza (Seidner) Kreider was born October 12, 1862. He has been married three times; first to Maggie Paulus in 1899; after her death to Goldie Fisher in 1905; and after her death, to Dora Hendricks, former wife of Elder S. F. Hendricks, in 1929. He was the father of seven children. He was converted at the Elkhart City church under the preaching of Elder I. D. Parker, and was baptized by him October 30, 1893. Just two years later he was called to the ministry, was advanced in 1898, and ordained December 31, 1904, by Elders I. L. Berkey and George Swihart. Soon after this he was given charge of his home congregation, Elkhart Valley, where he had charge in all, 23 years.

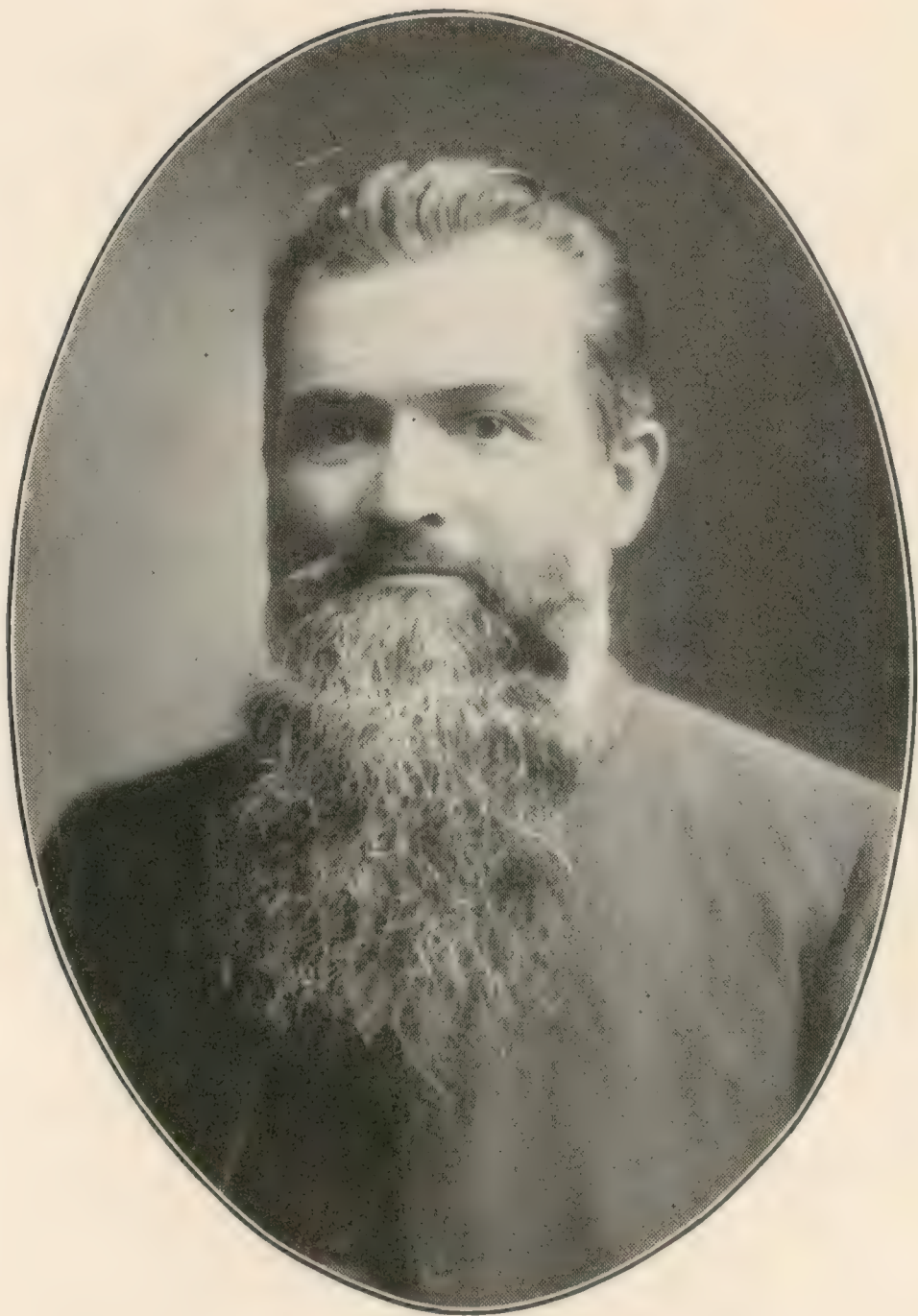
He was a recognized leader in the district, being twice moderator of District Meeting; five times he represented the district on Standing Committee; was a member of the District Mission Board 12 years; and of the District Ministerial Board 3 years; also a member of committees to churches at various times. He also served as trustee of Manchester College for three years. Besides his home congregation he was elder in charge of the following churches at some time: Buchanan, Mich., Laporte, Cassopolis, Mich., Goshen City, Bethany, Osceola, Maple Grove and Michigan City. According to his records he officiated at 422 funerals and 218 marriages during his ministry. He has been a faithful servant of God. Because of their advanced age and the invalid health of both him and his wife, they sold their home near the Elkhart Valley church early in 1950, and spent their remaining days in a convalescent home at Waterford, just south of Goshen, Indiana. He passed away on May 19, 1950, at the age of 87.

### **H. W. KREIGHBAUM**

The subject of this sketch was born near Akron, Ohio, September 18, 1846. He was the eldest son of William and Rufina Markel Kreighbaum. The parents were of German descent, and devout Christians, the father holding to the Lutheran confession, the mother to the United Brethren.

When Hiram was but six years old the family moved to a farm near Elkhart. This country was then new and the family was made to





**Elder H. W. Krieghbaum**

feel its hardships. Three years later the mother died, but not until she had deeply impressed her character upon the children's hearts. The father was a blacksmith by trade, leaving much of the farming to his eldest son.

Hiram secured some schooling during the winter months. At the age of 20, while on a visit to Ohio, he attended a musical institute and prepared himself to be leader of song in the community. Later he found this of advantage in a higher calling.

April 4, 1871 he was married to Marietta W. Wenger. She was the only daughter of Martin Wenger, one of the pioneer settlers of South Bend. Her mother was a sister of Henry Studebaker, the founder of the famous Studebaker Wagon Works. Brother and Sister Krieghbaum were prominent not only in South Bend, but they took great interest in the church.

After their marriage Hiram and his wife settled on a farm near South Bend. He was a hard worker and a good manager. He came to enjoy not only financial success, but the confidence and respect of all who knew him. In 1895 he retired from the farm to engage in manu-



facturing business in South Bend. After a few years he retired from active work to give more attention to church duties.

Hiram had been received into the Lutheran church at 15. After his marriage he was brought into close touch with the Brethren. He was baptized by Elder P. R. Wrightsman April 1, 1877. In 1880 the St. Joseph Valley church chose him for their first clerk. His faithfulness in this and his devout Christian character influenced his call to the ministry in 1882. In October, 1899, he was ordained and given charge of the congregation.

From this on until his death he was a leader in the church. He was as a father unto his own people. No one was too poor or too needy to receive his notice and concern. He and Sister Kreighbaum knew how to make people welcome at their home. He enjoyed the Christian fellowship of his brethren and usually attended the love feasts and other special meetings in near-by congregations. He was much loved by the Brethren of his State District, being known as a safe counsellor and an aggressive leader. He regularly attended Annual Meetings and had a wide circle of friends in the Brotherhood.

When he moved from the farm he built a large, comfortable home in the south part of South Bend, overlooking St. Joseph River. He was the father of two sons and one daughter. Young people in the church and in the city revered him as a father. He was often called to officiate at funerals and at the marriage altar. Few men in South Bend knew more of its people.

His last illness was of long duration, but he patiently awaited the call. He made all funeral arrangements. He peacefully fell asleep, June 11, 1912. The funeral services were conducted by Elder Galen B. Royer. The throng of people who were present told more than words could the high esteem in which he was held by his fellows.

### KURTZ

"Kurtz" is a very familiar name in the Church of the Brethren. Elder Henry Kurtz was the first editor of *The Gospel Visitor*, the first paper to circulate among our people. He was a man of large vision and foresaw more clearly than most men the great need of the church for literature and for able men. Elder Henry Kurtz is represented in Indiana history by a worthy descendant, L. P., an elder.

Leander P. Kurtz was born in Elkhart County. He has vivid memories of his experiences as a boy helping father pay off some of the school debt left by Salem College. In 1891 he was married to Julia Berkey. September 12, 1902, while living at Logansport, Indiana, he was called to the ministry. Two years later, while living at West Goshen, he was advanced to the second degree of the ministry. He was ordained in the Walnut Level church while living in Bluffton. He



is a carpenter by trade. For many years after 1910 he lived on a farm west of Goshen, but for some years now has lived in West Goshen. He was elder at one time of the Walnut Level church in Middle Indiana and at one time of the North Webster (formerly Tippecanoe) Portage, and Laporte churches in Northern Indiana. He has been for many years one of the faithful assistants in the ministry of the West Goshen church.



### MOYNE LANDIS

Brother Landis was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, May 2, 1890, to Noah and Lydia Miller Landis. He was baptized May 8, 1910. On May 14, 1911, he married Kate Martin of Liberty Mills, Indiana. They have had four children, two sons and two daughters.

He attended Sidney and North Manchester High Schools, spent nearly three years at Bethany, two years at Manchester College and one year at Indiana University. He taught in the schools of Sidney thirteen years (principal last seven) and was principal at Silver Lake five years, 1937-42. Besides these positions he taught in other schools near Sidney for seven years.

His pastoral services have been unique for the length of time in his principal pastorate. From 1916 to 1918 he served the Plunge Creek (Liberty Mills, now) church as a part-time pastor. Then he served the Spring Creek Church, his home church, for twenty-six years, to 1944. Since that time he has been pastor of the Oakland Church in Southern Ohio.



He was called to the ministry in 1914 and to the eldership in 1919. He served Middle Indiana many years on district boards, was six times on Standing Committee and has served on the Ministerial Board of Southern Ohio since going to that district, 1944.

Brother Landis combined a successful teaching career with outstanding service to the church, principally in pastoral service but also in many other ways.

### ISAAC LAWSHE

This family name was identified from an early date with the Amwell church in New Jersey. There Isaac Lawshe was born in 1803 and married Nancy Rockefeller in 1825. His election to the ministry seems to have occurred there in the 30's, before they moved to Ohio, then to Indiana, to the Four Mile church. In the account of that church is a copy of their church letter, granted when they left this church. They moved to the Somerset church where they lived for ten years. Bro. Lawshe was a man of learning and a strong preacher. He moved to Pierceton, in Northern Indiana, where he was killed by a run-away team in 1865. This couple had twelve children, eight of whom grew to maturity. The widow died later in North Dakota, at the home of a daughter. The couple were buried side by side in the Somerset Cemetery.

### JOHN LEATHERMAN

Elder John Leatherman, the first elder of the Turkey Creek church, was born in Maryland in 1776. Some of the Leathermans had come to America with Alexander Mack. When a young man John moved to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, where he lived thirty years. While here he was called to the ministry and ordained. He moved to Elkhart County in 1836. Here he found a few members. The following year this little band was organized as the Turkey Creek church, with Elder Leatherman in charge.

"Old Brother Johnny Leatherman," as he was commonly called, was not known as an eloquent speaker, but he was a good man and one of the best presiding elders of his day. He was loved by all his brethren. He was widely known in Indiana and in the Brotherhood. He served twice on the Standing Committee.

He was the father of eight children. One daughter became the wife of Elder H. D. Davy, of Ohio. Sister Leatherman died in 1850. From then until his death he made his home with his son, Joseph Leatherman. A daughter of Joseph married Aaron Miller, a brother of Elder John H. Miller. He has furnished important data for this account.



**SAMUEL LECKRONE**

He was a native of Perry County, Ohio, born in 1848. He married Mary Hendricks in 1870. Of their six children, the oldest son, Charles, taught for a number of years in Manchester College. Samuel was called to the ministry in the Eel River church in 1876 and was ordained in 1881, after the presiding elder had gone with the Old Orders, leaving the church without a head. He was immediately placed in charge and ministered to them for over thirty years. He was also elder of Beaverdam (twenty-two years), Roann, Landessville, and Washington churches. He served on the Standing Committee once, 1895. A son, Homer, is a layman in the West Manchester church.



**Elder Joseph Leedy and Wife**

**JOSEPH LEEDY**

A native of Augusta County, Virginia, Joseph Leedy was born in 1815 and moved to Ohio when fifteen years old. Later he married Lydia Witter. They were the parents of five sons and three daughters. They were good substantial members and he was called to the ministry in 1850.

Three years later they moved to Huntington County. Here they pioneered and prospered, living one mile south of Andrews. In fact, Joseph and his brother laid out the town of Andrews, along the old



canal. His brother John, an elder, who moved in from Ohio, helped much in building up a church which became one of the leading congregations of the state.

Bro. Leedy travelled far, at his own expense, to preach the Gospel. He believed in higher education and in revivals, both opposed by many in that day. He was a district leader and once was on the Standing Committee. He was a member of the first Mission Board, serving from 1880 to 1884.

They retired in 1888. She died in 1897 and Bro. Leedy in 1903. His brother John, also an elder, had two daughters who married Benjamin and Henry Frantz, respectively. The former became a minister in the Old Order church and the latter a leading minister of the Church of the Brethren. Henry's son, Edward, is a former editor of the *Gospel Messenger*.



**GALEN T. LEHMAN**

Brother Lehman is a son of Ira M. and Mary Trostle Lehman and was born in Lee County, Illinois, on May 20, 1897. He married June Puterbaugh on June 6, 1922. They have two children, Dean and Kathleen Mary. He was baptized July 4, 1910.

Brother Lehman graduated from the Franklin Grove High School (Illinois) and from Mount Morris College, 1921. He received his B. D. degree from Bethany in 1926. He attended Northwestern University one semester, 1924.

His experience has been largely in the pastoral field but he taught



school, 1921-2, acted as field representative for Mount Morris, 1930-2. He has held pastorates at Batavia, Illinois, 1923-26; Conway, Kansas, 1926-30; Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1932-37; Springfield, Illinois, 1937-42; and Huntington, Indiana, 1942-50. In four of the five districts in which he held pastorates he was a member of a district board and in the fifth he was treasurer of a board, which indicates a recognition of his administrative talents.

Brother Lehman served on the Standing Committee in 1934, 1946 and 1947, he has been elder of several churches, director of the Annual Conference, 1945, a dean in four camps. In Middle Iowa he served as moderator in the district conference of 1937.

Brother Lehman has been a strong pastor and effective preacher. His pastoral and administrative experience fitted him for his present Regional work. He was Chairman of the Central Regional Council, 1946-1950, and is now Assistant Director for the Central Region with his office at Manchester College. He lives at North Manchester.



**CHARLES A. LIGHT**

Charles A. Light is the son of Banks and Annie (Young) Light and was born in Seneca County Ohio, Oct. 31, 1888. He attended grade school at their home in Ohio. Then the family moved to Nappanee, Ind. He attended the Academy at Manchester College, and later took



summer terms and Normal Training at the same place; also had extension courses from Indiana University in Indiana, and Western State and Michigan Normal, both in Michigan. Since 1912 he has divided his time between farming and teaching, and spending 10 years in office work in Sturgis, Mich., until 1945. Since then he spent five years directing the Brethren Service Center in Nappanee, Ind.

On Dec. 22, 1912 he was united in marriage with Mabel E. Swihart, to whom were born two sons, Allen and Arnold; and three daughters, Alene, Anna and Alice. Brother Light was baptized in 1902; was licensed to the ministry in 1914 and ordained to the eldership in 1918. From 1914 to 1945 he served the English Prairie Church in the free ministry; then for three years he was part-time pastor of the Yellow Creek Church. Since 1950 he is serving as full-time pastor of the Blue River Church. He served his district on the Standing Committee once, and is now a member of the Mission-Ministerial Board of the District. He has done some evangelistic work and is a useful man in the Church he loves.

#### **FREDERICK P. LOEHR**

Frederick P. Loehr was a German of small stature. He had been educated for the Lutheran ministry, but at the age of 27 united with the Church of the Brethren. In 1830 he married Judith Baer. To them were born sixteen children, twelve of whom grew to maturity. He was called to the ministry about 1840. We do not know when he first came to Northern Indiana, but he was a member and minister of the Solomon's Creek church when it was organized in 1856. In 1865 he moved to Bloomingdale, Michigan, where he spent the remainder of his days. He there lived in the Van Buren church which was then a part of Northern Indiana.

Brother and Sister Loehr were good singers. He had an excellent bass voice, while his wife was just as good in soprano. They often sang together at love feasts. "Home Sweet Home" was one of their favorites. Some of the brethren in those days objected to bass singing, but Brother Loehr said that the Lord had given him his voice, and he would have to use it. He was a good writer too. He was a regular contributor to several of the papers that were then springing up. He was aggressive in every good work, and was considered quite a safe counsellor. He was twice a member of Standing Committee. He believed that the Lord would bless every good work, whether in the Church of the Brethren or not. He encouraged education and took great interest in Salem College when it was started at Bourbon in 1870. He was one of the first to hold children's meetings. The children were always anxious to hear "grandpa." He died at Bloomingdale October 11, 1880, in his 78th year. His wife died in 1897, aged 83.



**PETER LONG**

Peter Long was a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. While yet a boy he moved with his parents to Holmes County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. He married Sarah Kaub. About 1860 he was called to the ministry. In 1863 he and eight others moved to La-grange County, Indiana. He became a leading factor in the building up of the English Prairie church. He donated the ground both for the meetinghouse and the cemetery. He was ordained to the eldership about 1878 and was presiding bishop of the English Prairie congregation for thirty years. He became active in the work of the district, serving as a member of Standing Committee one year. After the death of his first wife he was married to a daughter of Elder Abraham L. Neff. He died April 20, 1908, in his 77th year. His son-in-law Noah M. Shutt, succeeded him to the eldership.

**JOHN METZGER**

This man was one of the great pioneer figures of Indiana. Born to parents of Dutch (Holland) extraction, in 1807, in Pennsylvania, he moved to Dayton when twelve years old. At twenty-one he married Hannah Ulery and they soon joined the Church of the Brethren. Six years later they moved to Tippecanoe County, among the earlier settlers.

The next year, 1835, he was called to the ministry and preached his first sermon to six persons in a saw-mill. He had many trying experiences, including threats of men whose wives came into the church against their wishes.

In 1843 he was ordained and soon became the elder of Middle Fork, now Rossville. Here he labored till he moved to Cerro Gordo, Illinois, in 1861. There he became known throughout the Brotherhood. In 1878 he built a church at Cerro Gordo at his own expense. His wife died in 1887 and in 1890 he married the widowed daughter-in-law of Elder George Wolfe and moved to Laverne (Lordsburg), California. Here he lived till 1896 when he returned to Cerro Gordo where he died. His last address was given at a District Meeting in California two months before he died. He had been a minister sixty-one years, on Standing Committee eighteen times, six while in Indiana, and held many other important positions.

His son, J. W. Metzger, was a minister in the Middle Fork church, serving as their elder many years. He moved to California and died a few years after his father's death.

A brother of John Metzger, Jacob, lived in the Eel River church where he was elder for many years. He went with the Old Order group in 1881.



**THURL METZGER**

Bro. Metzger was born in 1916 to Bro. and Sister Howard M. Metzger in the Eel River congregation. He graduated from the Sidney High School in 1934 and from Manchester College in 1938. He taught at Atwood five years and also at Kewanna and Lucerne. He spent three and a half years in Civilian Public Service during the Second World War. Much of this time was spent at an agricultural station in Northern Minnesota.

After the war he was in the heifer project, about a year in Poland in 1946-47 and the rest of the time at New Windsor, Maryland. From 1948 to July, 1950, he was engaged in farming and spent some time on the heifer project. Since July, 1950, he has been a full-time employee in that project. His wife was Ruth Landis, daughter of Elder Moyne Landis. He has just returned from a trip to Japan and Korea in the interest of Brethren relief work in Korea.



**Elder David Metzler and Wife**

**METZLER**

David Metzler is a native of Elkhart County, Indiana and was raised in the Mennonite faith. He was baptized into the Church of the Brethren by Elder I. J. Rosenberger in 1892. He was elected to the ministry March 30, 1899. One year later he was advanced and was ordained to the eldership in 1904, soon afterwards was given charge of



his home congregation, the Nappanee Church. He was in charge for one year, then after an interval of two years, was in charge for eight years; then after another interval of two years was again placed in charge and remained for twenty-five years.

He was married to Lucinda Holloway, March 1, 1890, to whom were born two sons, Burton and John. They also adopted a daughter, Hazel. Brother Metzler resided on a small farm just south of Nappanee, where he spent most of his life, moving to Nappanee just a short time before Sister Metzler's death. He had a limited education but was always an untiring student. He has been a forceful speaker, excelling in doctrine, having few equals in presenting in a plain, interesting manner the fundamental doctrines of the Christian faith. He was a wise counsellor and a strong administrator, as is evidenced by the many churches over which he had oversight at various times.

He was always an outstanding leader in Northern Indiana. He represented his district 14 times on the Standing Committee; was moderator of District Meeting 10 times; was a member of the District Mission Board for six years and of the Ministerial Board for 12 years; he was also a member of many important committees, both in the District and from Annual Meeting.

He was pastor at Rossville, Ind., 3 years and at Fruitland, Idaho, 2 years. He gave much time to evangelistic service in the church, having held eighty meetings. He was always quiet and unassuming in manner but a power in the pulpit, hence he won many friends. He now lives a retired life at the home of his son, John, on his old home farm.

Burton Metzler, son of David Metzler, was born at Nappanee, January 20, 1894. He was baptized by Daniel Wyson in 1911. He graduated from the Nappanee High School in 1912; from Manchester College with the A. B. degree in 1920; from Bethany Biblical Seminary with the B. D. degree in 1921; from the Princeton Theological Seminary with the Th.B. degree in 1924; and from the Southern Baptist Seminary with the Ph.D. degree in 1928. He taught in Public School for two years, and did part-time farming along with pastoral work at Wakarusa for one year; also was pastor at the Middlebury church for three years. He taught in Bethany Biblical Seminary 1925-1933, and since 1937 has been Professor of Philosophy and Religion in McPherson College.

On September 11, 1921 he and Alma Stump of North Liberty, Indiana, were married. To them were born two daughters and one son. He was called to the ministry September 20, 1917, and ordained to the eldership in September 1930. He has served on Standing Committee twice; was a member of various district boards and was moderator of District Meeting. He has served on the General Board of



Christian Education, The General Brethren Service Committee, and is now a member of the General Brotherhood Board.



### **JOHN D. METZLER**

John D. Metzler, second son of David Metzler, was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, July 16, 1898. After graduation from High School he entered Manchester College, receiving the A. B. degree. He did graduate work in Indiana University, Ohio State University, and University of Chicago. He also had a year at Bethany Biblical Seminary.

On June 6, 1922 he was united in marriage with Margaret Eldridge of Fruitland, Idaho. They are the parents of two sons and one daughter. Brother Metzler taught High School from 1920 to 1940, a short time in Oregon and Idaho, but most of the time in Indiana. He was called to the ministry at Nappanee in 1921, and ordained to the eldership in 1933. He did part-time pastoral service at Payette, Idaho for one year; two years in the Mt. Pleasant Church, seven years in the Camp Creek church, and two years in the Bremen church, all in Northern Indiana. He served a term on the Board of Christian Education and three years as Executive Secretary of Northern Indiana. He also served twice as a member of Standing Committee.



He spent four years as Material Aid Director for the General Brethren Service Committee at New Windsor, Maryland, and since 1947 has been Director of CROP organization for Relief, with headquarters in Chicago.

John D. Metzler Jr., son of John D. Metzler, and grandson of David Metzler, was born at Payette, Idaho, March 15, 1923. He with his parents came to Indiana, and after completing High School, he graduated from Manchester College with the A. B. degree. He received one year training at Bethany Biblical Seminary. On October 28, 1944, he was married to Anita Flowers, to whom were born two daughters. He was licensed to the ministry in the Nappanee Church in 1946 and advanced in 1949. He did a year of student pastoral work in Middle Indiana. He spent three years working for the Brethren Service Committee in Elgin, and in 1949, took his family to Puerto Rico, where he is principal of the Brethren Academy.

### JOHN METZLER

John Metzler was a native of Mahoning County, Ohio, born March 24, 1833. He married Elizabeth Stauffer in 1857. To them were born four sons and three daughters. He was called to the ministry in the Baugo church in 1870 and ordained in 1883. Of his work in the church, his son has the following to say:

"When he took the oversight of this congregation we had no church house. During his charge two churches were built, the one in the country, the other in Wakarusa. During this time our first Sunday School was organized. The church has had its seasons of prosperity and adversity. During his active ministry he was called to do considerable work beyond the limits of the Baugo congregation, holding series of meetings, assisting in councils, preaching funerals and solemnizing marriages, and having charge of other churches. His diary shows that in the twenty years, from 1872 to 1893, he preached about 284 funeral sermons, solemnized 127 marriages and baptized about 104 persons. I knew him to leave his reaper in the harvest field and the threshing machine in his own barn to go and preach funerals, while he lived on an eighty-acre farm and was burdened with considerable indebtedness. Yet the Lord prospered him better than some who made the things of this world their chief aim. He always took our church paper and looked for its arrival with anxiety, being disappointed if the mails did not bring it at the usual time." He died April 12, 1912, aged 79 years and 19 days.

His son, Christian Metzler, also was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, May 26, 1864. He had a limited education, completing the grades and receiving one year High School. He taught school for 22 years and then turned his attention to farming. August 18, 1899 he



was united in marriage with Mary E. Miller, daughter of Elder Alexander Miller, a prominent elder in the Union Center church. They were the parents of two daughters and one son. One daughter, Nina, married T. G. Weaver, a young minister, who has since become a leader both in Northern and Middle Indiana. Brother Metzler was elected to the deacon's office in 1891. On December 7, 1901 he was elected to the ministry and ordained to the eldership in 1908 by Elders I. D. Parker and Levi Hoke. He always engaged in the free ministry, assisting at the Baugo church until the Wakarusa Church was organized in 1915, when he assisted there. He was elder in charge from its beginning until 1934. He was District Sunday School Secretary for Northern Indiana from 1902 to 1906. He was a member of the District Mission Board for 18 years, and its treasurer as well. He did some evangelistic work as he had opportunity. He died at Wakarusa in 1951.

#### **MRS. CHARLES MICK**

Mrs. Charles Mick was born in 1879. She was baptized as a member of the Yellow Creek Church in 1894. She was a charter member of the Goshen City Church, and an officer of their Ladies' Aid for 50 years, since it was organized. She was very active in all lines of church activities; was District President of Women's Work for six years and member of District Joint Boards.

#### **JACOB MILLER**

The first minister of the Church of the Brethren to preach in Indiana was Elder Jacob Miller. More remarkable than this is the fact that he was also the first minister of the Brethren in Virginia and also in Ohio. His descendents have been many, and among them some very able ministers of the church. The account of his life should be read with more than ordinary interest.

Jacob Miller was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, in 1735. His parents were natives of Germany. He united with the church early in life and soon afterwards was called to the ministry. He married while yet young and moved to Franklin County, Virginia, in 1765. Here he raised a family of nine sons and three daughters.

It is agreed that Jacob Miller was the first minister of the church in Southern Virginia. Elder D. H. Zigler, in his "History of the Brethren in Virginia," says that perhaps John Garber was the first minister. He says, however, that Elder Garber moved into Northern Virginia in 1775, but it is quite certain that Elder Miller moved into Southern Virginia ten years earlier.

Soon after Elder Miller moved to Southern Virginia he became acquainted with William Smith, an Englishman. Having learned of



the doctrine of the Brethren, Smith requested baptism. He was later elected to the ministry. He lived in Floyd County, while Elder Miller lived in Franklin. "With staff in hand they would walk ten or twelve miles to the place of meeting. Previous to the regular service they would read a scripture and give explanation. Elder Miller would speak in the German and Elder Smith would speak in the English. Through their ministry, largely, the foundation for a number of large and flourishing organizations in the first District of Virginia was laid."—D. H. Zigler.

After serving the church in Virginia for a generation this pioneer moved to Southern Ohio in 1800 and settled near Dayton, on the west side of the Miami River. The land was a dense forest, inhabited by many Indians. Elder Miller visited these children of the forest and sang and prayed for them. He gained not only their reverence and respect, but their promise of protection under all circumstances. They called him "the Good Man," the Great Spirit sent from the East.

Though advanced in years his missionary activity and zeal were none the less. He was the first preacher of the Brethren in Montgomery, Darke and Preble Counties, where now the Brethren churches are so prosperous. His work extended into other Ohio counties. Having heard that a few brethren had settled in Indiana, on Four Mile Creek, he came and preached for them occasionally. In 1809 he and Elder John Hart organized the first church in Indiana on Four Mile Creek.

After a faithful service in the ministry of over fifty years this great ambassador for Christ died at his Ohio home in 1816. He was buried in a cemetery near the Lower Miami Church. For half a century this cemetery was neglected and for twenty years it was cultivated. On July 5, 1916, one century after the death of Elder Jacob Miller, his grave was rediscovered and marked by Elders John Calvin Bright and Jesse O. Garst.

It would take a volume to give the history of Elder Jacob Miller and the descendents of his twelve children. This account will be limited to those who became leaders in the Church of the Brethren, particularly in Indiana. Of the sons, but three of them, Abraham, Aaron and David, will receive attention here.

Abraham Miller was born April 1, 1775, in Franklin County, Virginia, and died at the age of 76. He was married to Nancy Huston, who bore him fifteen children. Nine of these raised large families. The eldest two sons were Jacob and James, both of them worthy ministers in Northern Indiana. On account of his ability and his large service for the church, a special biography of Jacob Miller, Jr. will be given. His brother, James, was his associate, who outlived Jacob many years and died in 1893 at an advanced age. He is said to have baptized over 2000 persons and to have officiated at many weddings.



Aaron Miller was born in 1785 in Franklin County, Virginia, and moved with his parents to Ohio in 1800. His wife was Elizabeth Hardman. They raised a family of eleven children. In 1818 they moved to Wayne County, Indiana, being among the first members of the Nettle Creek congregation. He was called to the ministry about this time. In 1829 he moved near South Bend, Indiana. His son, David Miller, Jr. was called to the ministry in the Portage church and became an able preacher and church worker. He is sometimes mistaken for his uncle, David Miller, Sr.

David Miller Sr. was born in Virginia and grew to manhood in Ohio, where he was also elected to the ministry. About 1817 he settled near Hagerstown, where he became the first minister and presiding elder of the Nettle Creek church. In 1830 he moved to St. Joseph County and became the first elder of the Portage Prairie congregation. He was a man universally loved because of his piety and generosity. He died at the age of 52. His son, Aaron Miller, Jr. followed him in the ministry and died at the age of 80. Thurston Miller, for years a minister at Laporte, Indiana, was a son of Aaron Miller, Jr.

Elder Isaac Miller, the blind preacher of Laporte, was a son of Tobias Miller, another son of Jacob Miller, Sr.

#### **JACOB MILLER, JR.**

It is due that a more extended account be given to a grandson, by the same name, of Elder Jacob Miller, Sr. He was born in Preble County, Ohio, March 6, 1812. He was the oldest of a family of sixteen children born to Abraham and Nancy Miller. He early moved with his parents to Franklin County, Indiana. In May, 1831, he was married to Sarah Backus. For some years he was a butcher in Cincinnati. In 1833 they emigrated to German Township, St. Joseph County, Indiana. Here they built up a good home and became quite successful financially. They were the parents of twelve children, ten of whom grew to maturity.

The Portage church was organized in 1833. The next year he was called to the ministry at the age of 22. This was quite young for a man to be put to work in those days. It was not long, however, until he became a leader, not only in Northern Indiana, but throughout the Brotherhood.

He and his brother, James, worked side by side in their church work. James, however, was more of a home worker. In 1851 they were instrumental in having a large brick house of worship erected eight miles northwest of South Bend. It was the first house built in Northern Indiana and one of the earliest in the state. In this house Elder Miller preached for twenty years, building up a large congregation.

He had talent and special fitness for committee work. He strove





**Jacob Miller, Jr.**

for peace and could often get opposing parties together. For twenty years he was placed on as many Annual Meeting committees as any other man. He served eight times on Standing Committee. In 1866 he was a member of the committee that went to effect a reconciliation with the John A. Bowman Brethren in Tennessee. In 1869 he and Elder D. B. Sturgis were sent as a committee to visit the churches in California and Oregon and organize them for work.

Early in his ministry he went to New York to transact some business as a guardian. While there he did some preaching by request. A young man asked and received baptism at his hands. Since this man was isolated he gave him a letter to show that he was a member of the church. Twenty years later that man came west, stopped at South Bend and enquired for Jacob Miller. They enjoyed this renewal of acquaintance. The young man married a sister in the church, was elected deacon and became an earnest worker for the Lord.

Elder Miller was a large man and wore long hair and beard. He was a man of fine characteristics and stood high in the estimation of his home people. He was a good text preacher and a good exhorter. He had a large library for those days and did much reading.

His death was sudden and unexpected on Sunday evening, September 24, 1871. A short time before this he expressed the belief that he would be called away suddenly. His funeral service, conducted by



D. B. Sturgis and Christian Wenger, was one of the largest ever held here. He was laid to rest in the little cemetery just across the road from his house.

### JOHN MILLER

Elder Miller was among the first settlers in Elkhart County. He was born in Pennsylvania, December 15, 1787. He later moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, where he was called to the ministry in the Wolf Creek church. In 1835 he located on Elkhart Prairie, southeast of Goshen. He was an active colaborer of Elder Daniel Cripe, and did his share of the evangelistic work in those early days. He finally located in the Yellow Creek church seven miles southwest of Goshen, where he died in 1856.

Of his children, David Y. Miller became an elder in the Yellow Creek church, but later went with the Old Order Brethren. Another son, Jacob Miller, became the father of Levi and John R., who became a deacon and minister in the church, respectively. David Y. Miller, was the father of Elder Alexander Miller, of Union Center church.

Alexander Miller was born November 7, 1842. He was married to Lizzie King. To them were born four sons and three daughters. He was chosen deacon in 1876, and a few years later was called to the ministry. He was ordained later and from 1895 until his death in 1905 he was presiding elder at Union Center. He was blind during these last years, but took great interest in church work. His faithful companion read to him the church papers regularly. He attended council meetings in his own and other churches, and frequently conducted series of meetings. He was a liberal giver, and turned over considerable property to the General Mission Board. One of his daughters married Elder Christian Metzler, of Wakarusa, whose eldest daughter is the wife of Theron G. Weaver, a minister.

### JOHN R. MILLER

Elder John R. Miller was the son of Elder Jacob and Cathrine Rarick Miller. He was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, November 30, 1844. He secured a good education for those days. He taught school for a number of years, the first school being a log house with slab seats and backs and no desks. He married Rachel Rupert February 1, 1868 and two years later they moved on a farm three miles northwest of Nappanee, where they lived until 1917, raising a family of eight children. One daughter, Ella, went out to India as a missionary. A son, Elmer, became a minister, and an evangelist of note. In 1917 he moved to Nappanee where he lived until his death, December 19, 1927. He carried the chief responsibility for the South Union House in the Union Center church.



Elmer C. Miller, son of John R. Miller, was born August 31, 1874. He was raised near Nappanee and after finishing school there, he took a business course at Manchester College. He was timber buyer for the Studebaker Corporation in South Bend for some years. He was married to Lucy Buck, and they had one son who died at the age of 14. He was elected to the ministry about 1902. After his business experience he began evangelistic work with Evangelist Beiderwolf and was associated with him a few years and then continued on his own until his death, February 7, 1947.

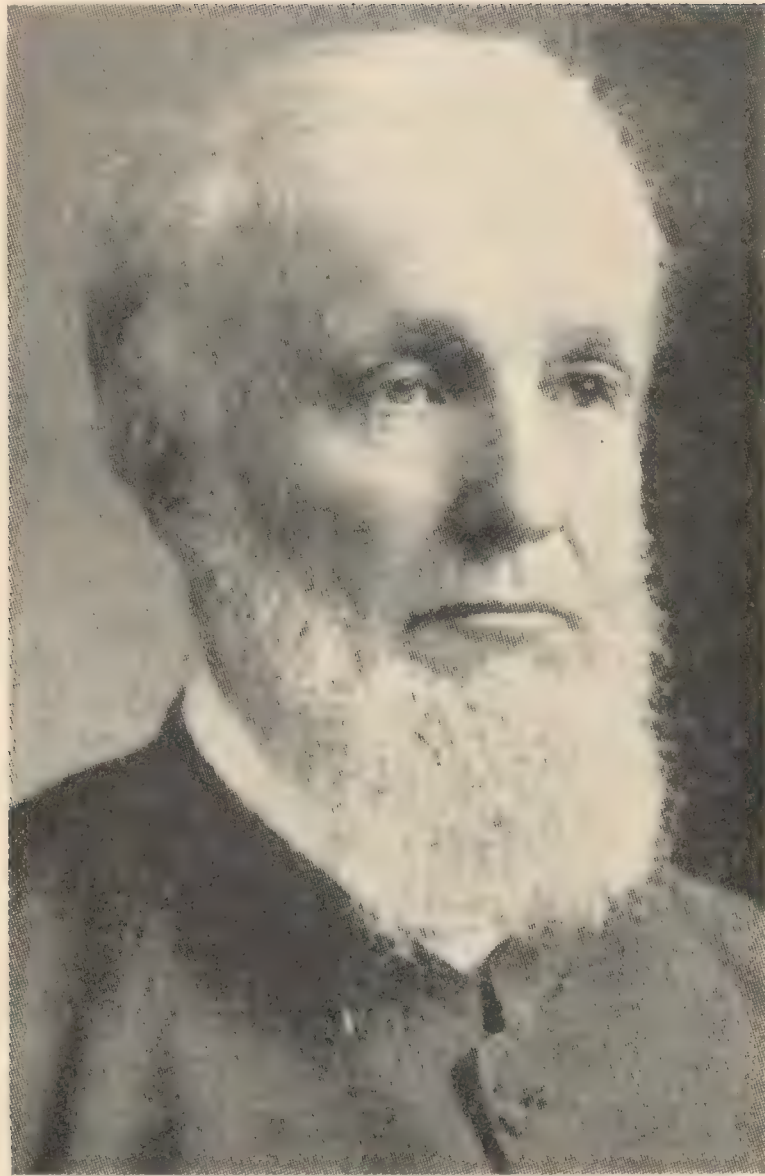
Theodore Miller, grandson of John R. Miller, was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, May 19, 1902. He completed his High School, then entered Manchester College receiving his A. B. degree there and later his M. S. in Education from Indiana University. He taught school most of the time since. June 7, 1931 he was married to Esther Zimmerman to whom were born five sons. He was licensed to the ministry in 1928; advanced a year later and ordained to the eldership in 1938. He did part-time pastoral work at Milford, Center, North Liberty, Wakarusa, Camp Creek and Pine Creek. Was full-time pastor at Pine Creek for a time and then moved to California where he now resides.

Harold Miller, another grandson of John R. Miller, and cousin to Theodore, was born near Nappanee, May 29, 1915. After completing High School at Nappanee, he took two years work at Manchester College and then graduated from the Central Missouri Teachers' College and later received his B. D. from Bethany Biblical Seminary. He was licensed to the ministry in 1933, advanced two years later and ordained to the eldership in 1939. He was pastor at Lecton, Missouri, later at Middlebury, Indiana, for several years. After completing his work at the Seminary he did full time pastoral work near Astoria, Illinois, and at Piqua, Ohio. He is now pastor of the Yellow Creek church, Indiana. He served as part-time Field Man in Middle Missouri, and represented Southern Illinois on the Standing Committee. In September, 1937, he was married to Louise F. Reed, to whom were born one son and a daughter. He has good prospects for large service in the church.

#### JOHN H. MILLER

Elder John H. Miller, lately of West Goshen, represents another branch of the Miller family, just described. John H. was the son of Elder Stephen E. and Elizabeth (Landis) Miller. Elder Stephen Miller was a half-brother to Daniel Miller, who was the father of Elder Samuel Miller (of West Alexandria, Ohio), and of Anna Miller, who married Robert Wyson and became the mother of Elders Daniel and Henry Wyson. Elder Stephen Miller succeeded Elder John Leatherman in charge of the Turkey Creek church, and remained its faithful





**Elder John H. Miller**

bishop until his death in 1873. He was followed by his son, Elder John H.

The early experience of John H. was that of hard labor, with but few educational advantages. However, he acquired the rudiments of learning and a thirst for knowledge that was to lead him in a life search for truth. He united with the Church of the Brethren June 2, 1860. He was called to the ministry February 8, 1868, advanced in June of the following year, and ordained April 15, 1876. In his ministry he was both faithful and efficient. He was presiding elder at Turkey Creek for many years, and for awhile the pastor at Elkhart.

He engaged in evangelistic work for years. It is said that he held at least 140 series of meetings and brought hundreds into the church. He officiated at 111 weddings and at 251 funerals. He was prominent in the District Conferences, where he served as reading clerk more than any other man. He represented his District five times on the Standing Committee. He was much loved by all the brethren who knew him. He was twice married; first to Sarah Simpson, 1860; and after her death to Elizabeth Miller, in 1903. He was called to his reward May 29, 1914. His last days were spent in the West Goshen church.

#### **LEVI MILLER**

Born in Augusta County, Virginia, in 1817, he moved to Ohio in 1833 and was married in 1840 to Ursula Eikenberry. In 1842 they



moved to Miami County. To get money to pay for his land he rode a colt to Preble County, Ohio, sold it, and walked back. But he prospered and died with one thousand acres and interest in a bank.

In 1889 he built and presented to Middle Indiana the Old Folks' Home at Mexico; three years later the Orphans' home nearby. He passed away in 1902. His son, Joseph E., was a prosperous layman who was a liberal supporter of the church at Mexico. He died rather young, leaving a widow and three small children.

### **MARTIN MILLER**

Born in Rockingham County, Virginia, Bro. Miller came to Indiana soon after 1860. His wife was a daughter of Elder Jacob Frantz, of Bellefontaine, Ohio. He was called to the ministry in the Somerset church in 1905. He died in 1914.

His son, William, was called to the ministry in the Mississinewa church and ordained there. He died in 1912.

Another son of Martin was Jacob Andrew, who was called to the ministry in 1898 at Landessville. He married a daughter of Elder John Tinkel. Later, at Mississinewa he was ordained, 1911. For many years he was active in the Southern district and died recently.

Mary E., daughter of Martin Miller, married William, eldest son of Elder William Tinkel. Their son, William, has been a minister and teacher for many years. He now lives at Albany, Indiana.

### **ROBERT HENRY MILLER**

Robert Miller, father of Robert Henry, was born in Virginia but moved to Shelby County, Kentucky, where Robert Henry was born on June 7, 1825. He was second of a family of eight. In 1832 they moved to Montgomery County, Indiana. The son secured some schooling in the country log schoolhouses of those days. He was studious and attended an academy after which he taught two terms in the common schools.

From boyhood he was a great debater, studied law at home, gave temperance speeches, took part in political campaigns, and, therefore, became quite well-known in his community.

Son of a Baptist, he was much interested in a Methodist camp-meeting when he was nineteen. He married Sarah C. Harshbarger, 1846, daughter of a Brethren deacon. He studied the doctrines of the Brethren and both united with the church in 1858.

A few months later in 1858 he and David Stoner were called to the ministry. This home was blessed with eight children, of whom two died in infancy and two after they were grown up. These deaths and financial reverses were too much for the waning strength of the mother. She passed away 1880, only about two months after a daughter had died.





**Elder Robert Henry Miller**

From 1860 to 1880, Bro. Miller was very active in preaching, debating, and writing. He had become a figure in the Brotherhood. He was offered the presidency of Ashland College in 1880, shortly after his wife died. He accepted and very ably led the college for a year. The trustees favored the Progressive movement and he resigned because he was opposed to it. He moved to North Manchester where he lived the remaining years of his life. His pastorate was strategic because of the splits occurring in the church. He kept the main body of the church together. He labored here eight years, retiring to a little farm near the present West Manchester house. In January, 1892, he was invited to deliver a series of doctrinal sermons at Mount Morris College. While there he was stricken with pneumonia and died on March 8. His funeral, very largely attended, was one of the first in the new brick church, now West Manchester. He lies buried in the nearby cemetery.

Elder R. H. Miller was one of our greatest expounders of Brethren doctrines. He summed up his views in his book "The Doctrines of the Brethren Defended." He lived in a period of great debates between denominational leaders. He engaged in at least nine great debates. He contributed to all of the Brethren publications of his day. He was a great figure in the Annual Meetings, serving on the Standing Committee twelve times; was moderator once and reading clerk twice. He





**R. H. Miller, Jr.**

served on numerous committees, especially in cases where church troubles were to be smoothed out. As a pulpit man, he was one of the greatest in the church of his day.

While at Ashland he married Emma Norris. Four of their five children grew to maturity. Two are ministers, Daniel and Robert H., Jr. The latter is well-known as a preacher and teacher of Bible Philosophy at Manchester College.

**R. H. MILLER, JR.**

Robert Henry Miller, son of Robert H. and Emma (Norris) Miller, was born in North Manchester, February 9, 1889. His father at that time was pastor of the Manchester Church and one of the outstanding leaders of the church. The father died in 1892. As a result, young Robert and his three brothers were left to the care of the mother.

Robert's early education was obtained in the grade schools of Montgomery county in Indiana. Not content with these meager educational offerings, he came to Manchester College where he completed his high school work and was graduated from the college in 1916. The same institution conferred on him the degree D. D. in 1923. Additional degrees were secured from Northwestern University (A. M.) in 1937 and from Garrett Theological Seminary (B. D.) also in 1937.

On June 6, 1916, he married Maude Reiff of Burnettsville, Indiana. The two became the parents of three children: Robert M., John David, and Mary Emma. These children have grown to maturity and now have their own homes. The first years of their married life were spent in pastoral work. The first two charges were in California: Los



Angeles (1917-1919) and LaVerne (1919-1922). In 1922, Robert accepted the pastorate of the Manchester Church where he served very effectively until 1929. At that time, President Otho Winger invited him to accept a teaching position at Manchester College. This he did and he became the Professor of Religion and Philosophy at that institution, a position he holds at this writing. This place has given an opportunity to wield a powerful influence in determining the direction of Brethren thinking.

Robert was ordained as a minister of the Church of the Brethren in 1911 in the Mt. Pleasant (So. Ind.) Church. He was called to the Eldership in 1917 in the Los Angeles Church.

While he is a teacher in the college, yet he has spent many of his Sundays in the various Brethren pulpits throughout Indiana and the surrounding states. He also speaks frequently in the leading pulpits of other denominations.

Dr. Miller is the author of "The Lord's Prayer" 1929, "The Life Portrayed in the Sermon on the Mount" 1937, and numerous articles in religious publications. At the present time he is a contributing editor of the Gospel Messenger.

He is a member of the National Association of Bible Instructors, The American Theological Association and The American Philosophical Association.

At the present time he and his wife live in their attractive home 606 East Ninth Street, North Manchester, where he continues his teaching at Manchester College. He is being called upon to preach many funeral sermons and has officiated at many weddings, indicative of his wide circle of friends, both old and young.

### **RUSSEL MILLER**

Brother Miller is the son of Brother and Sister Jacob Miller and was born north of Laketon on the Miller homestead. Although living at several different places, he has lived nearly all of his life in Pleasant Township and the West Manchester Church. He graduated from the Laketon High School.

He has been active in church work all of his life. He was one of the early workers in Brethren Service. For several years he has served as chairman of the Heifer Committee. He has donated several of his own heifers. He also has served on the Rural Life Committee of Middle Indiana.

Brother Miller has served his local church in numerous capacities, including the ministerial board, rural life committee, and as a deacon. His son, Wayne, is teaching at Manchester College.



**MISHLER**

Elders John D. and George Mishler were sons of Daniel and Catherine Mishler, early settlers in the Eel River church. John D. married Sarah Haines. They united with the church in 1886. In 1896 he was elected deacon, in 1899 called to the ministry, and in 1906 ordained at Rossville, where he was pastor two years. Although taking up his work late, he became a very successful minister. His ministerial work was cut short by his failing health. He died in 1914, after only fifteen years in the ministry. He was elder of several churches, trustee of Manchester College and a member of the executive board of the college.

George Mishler was called to the ministry in 1896 but soon moved to Nebraska. He married a daughter of Daniel Horning, a deacon in the Manchester church. After her death he married his brother's widow and lived for some years near South Whitley and was active in his ministerial work. He died in 1935.

**MOSS**

William Moss, first elder of the Mexico church, moved from Four Mile. He was a large, sociable, friendly, and earnest man whose living had great influence. Some urged him to run for a seat in the legislature. A man of some means, Bro. Moss was very liberal to anyone needing help. He spent much time, accompanied by a deacon or two, visiting the scattered membership. He died in 1857 at seventy-three.

He had three sons who were ministers—Abraham, William, Jr., and Philip. Abraham remained in Union County. Called to the ministry, he served his church very ably for twenty-five years. He was widely known and served on the Standing Committee once. He died of typhoid fever long before he had arrived at old age.

William Moss, Jr., was called to the ministry at Mexico in 1850. He never felt gifted to preach but served his church well through his work as a counselor. Philip was called to the ministry in the Bachelor Run church but moved to Greene, Iowa, where he lived the remainder of his life.

The elder William Moss had another son, David, whose son was Aaron, elected to the ministry at Somerset in 1875. He later lived in several congregations, being ordained at Landessville in 1896. He had a son, Loring, who preached in Michigan and Ohio. He was called to the ministry at Loon Creek in 1905.

**A. I. MOW**

Aaron I. Mow was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, January 8, 1859. He graduated from the Indiana State Normal School at Terre Haute in addition to elementary schools. He was called to the minis-



try in the Camp Creek church in March, 1880; advanced in 1894, and ordained to the eldership December 14, 1902. He served in the free ministry and evangelistic work for forty years; he held Bible Institutes in Northern Indiana and taught Homiletics at Manchester College for a time. He also did some missionary service in Arkansas from 1892 to 1894. He lived in the Camp Creek church for a number of years, then moved to the Walnut church for some time. He lived in the Wawaka church for a year, then moved to Idaho. In 1916 he moved back to Indiana for a short time and finally moved to Polk County, Florida, where he died February 4, 1925.

In 1888 he was married to Mary Lunettie Baxter. To them were born four children, two of them passing away in early life. The daughter, Anetta, spent a term as missionary in India. His son, Baxter Mow, won the Cecil Rhodes scholarship to Oxford, England. After completing his studies there, he also finished a course in Bethany Biblical Seminary. He was married to Anna, daughter of Elder I. N. H. Beahm. They also spent a number of years as missionaries in India. They are now living in Chicago where she teaches in the Seminary.

### **J. C. MURRAY**

John Clinton Murray was born at Hagerstown, Indiana, February 26, 1846. His parents were Aaron and Marie (Harris) Murray. They were members of the Methodist church. When John Clinton was but a boy his parents moved to a farm near Liberty Mills, Indiana, where he grew to manhood. When the call to arms came in 1861, he early responded, entering the army December 1, 1861 and remaining in service until October 24, 1865.

After his return from military service Brother Murray became most interested in his spiritual welfare. Though raised a Methodist, he was much impressed with the faith and practice of the Church of the Brethren. He was baptized in the old Eel River congregation by Elder Jacob Metzger in April, 1867. In the next few years he lived at Neosha, Kansas, and Roann, Indiana, later moving into the Clear Creek congregation, where he was called to the ministry on the first Saturday of June, 1878. Before his election to the ministry he was superintendent of a Sunday School at Clear Creek, the first Sunday School in the church. He had always been an advocate and supporter of Christian Education and mission work, even when such support was not popular.

In 1881 he moved into the Huntington congregation. There he was advanced in 1882, and on the 27th of the following February was ordained to the eldership by Elder Joseph Leedy. He was shortly given charge of that congregation. Though there was much disorder in the church at that time, he soon had the church in good condition without



the dismissal of a single member. In his work as elder, Brother Murray was firm but considerate, and helped to bring some churches through serious difficulties. Besides his services to the above named churches, he has also resided in and served either as elder, minister, or pastor the following churches in turn: Manchester, Turkey Creek, Lanark, Illinois; Nappanee; Washington, District of Columbia; Indianapolis; and Manchester.

Brother Murray was twice married. In October 1868, he was married to Susannah Baer. To this union were born three sons and one daughter. All of these died while quite young except one son. The companion of his youth died of cancer November 4, 1901. He later married Sister Mary Stutsman, widow of B. F. Stutsman, a former elder in Northern Indiana. They lived at North Manchester for the remainder of his life.

Brother Murray was always an able exponent of the principles of the church. His preaching was sound and gave food for thought. He spent much time in evangelistic work, and through his efforts hundreds were brought into the church. He was a wise counsellor and was often called in cases where good advice was needed. He served three times on the Standing Committee as well as other important committees.

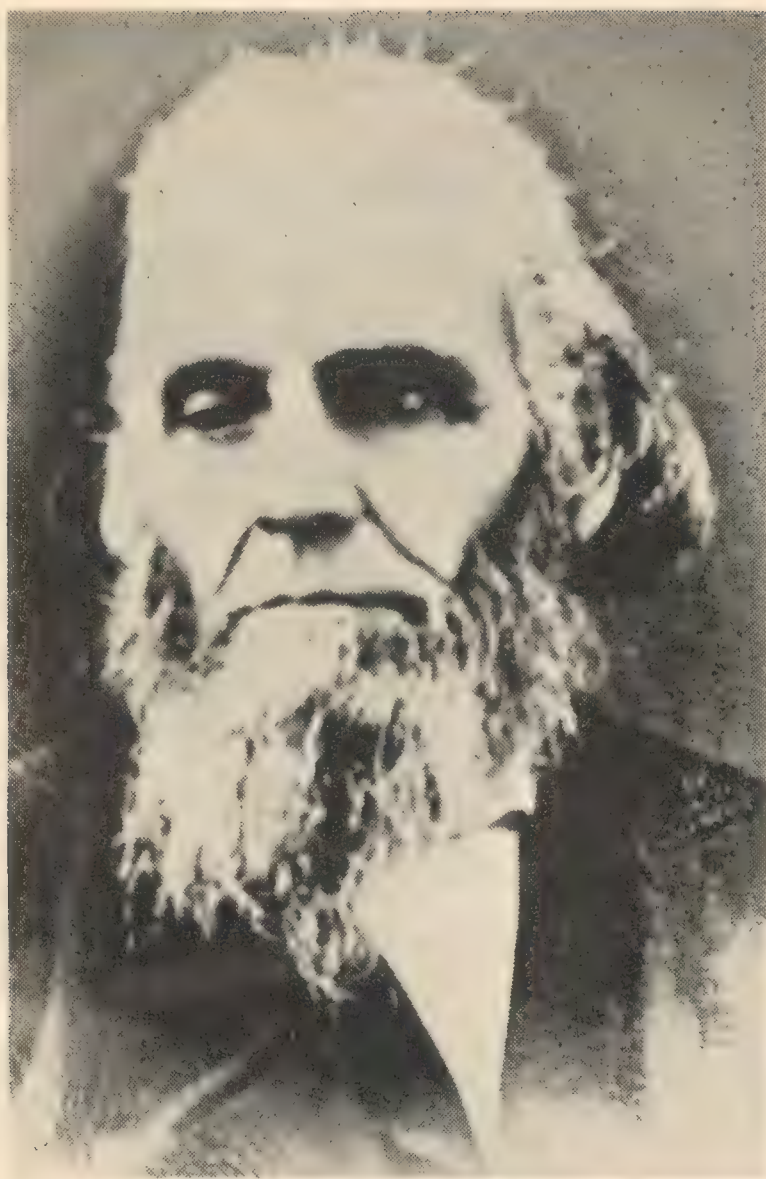
### **SAMUEL MURRAY**

This great pioneer preacher died on a Saturday evening in 1906 at his son's home in Indianapolis. Plans were already made to have him preach the next day when he would have been one hundred years old. He was born in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1806, under pioneer conditions. In 1812 his family moved to Ohio, by wagon to Pittsburgh and by flat-boat to Cincinnati, and by wagon to near Dayton. After six years of hard work carving a home out of the wilderness, the father died. The son learned the carpenter trade and the milling business.

In 1833 he married Phoebe Hart. Soon both united with the Brethren. In 1835 she died, leaving two small children. Two years later he married Sarah Myers, a widow. They had seven sons and six daughters. This wife died in 1863 and he married Catherine Studebaker. She died, leaving a little girl, and he married Leah Eshelman as his fourth wife.

Bro. Murray was elected to the ministry in Ohio. He came to Miami County in 1851. Finding a few scattered members, he did much to found the Pipe Creek church. There he was ordained, 1857. By 1864 there were three hundred members when he moved to Antioch (Andrews) congregation and later to Salimonie. He greatly strengthened these churches. Many came into the church under his preaching.





**Elder Samuel Murray**

After he was eighty he retired from active service but preached occasionally.

#### **ABRAHAM L. NEFF**

Abraham L. Neff was a native of Franklin County, Virginia, born January 9, 1830. He was the son of John and Nancy Neff. He came to Indiana in 1852. Two years later he married Lydia Whitehead. To them were born four sons and one daughter. They united with the church in 1862. In 1871 he was called to the ministry in the Solomon's Creek church, advanced in 1878 and ordained in 1888. In 1886 he moved to West Goshen and remained sixteen years. While here he had presiding charge for some time. In 1902 he moved to Syracuse where he spent the remainder of his life. His wife died in 1912, and he followed her four years later. He was earnest in his church work and respected by those who knew him. His grandson, Raleigh Neff, is a minister in the Bethany congregation.

Abe Neff, son of Henry M. and Nettie Neff, was born in Elkhart County, Ind. in 1895. He was baptized in the bounds of the Rock Run Church in 1910 and has been a foremost leader in the New Paris Church of which he was a charter member. He was a member of the Brethren Service Committee for five years, and also Sec.-treas. of the District Men's Work for 4 years. He made a trip by air with a plane



load of heifers to Venezuela for the General Brethren Service Committee.

### **BENJAMIN NEFF**

Born in Franklin County, Virginia, 1824, he came to Wabash County in 1856. Two years later he married Elizabeth Fisher. They had two sons and two daughters. One son later became known as a great scholar, writer, and traveler, James M. Neff.

Benjamin was called to the ministry in 1868 at Roann, where he was later ordained. He was a pioneer in Sunday school work. He married Fanny Kingery Young in 1878. He died in 1899.

### **DAVID NEFF**

Born in Franklin County, Virginia, 1827, David Neff came to Indiana, in 1849. He traveled mostly by wagon, in company with Martin Winger, the great-grandfather of Otho Winger. He located near Roann, then part of the Mexico territory. He married Peter Fisher's daughter, Hannah, in 1852. Here both joined the church and became part of the new congregation then known as Squirrel Creek, later changed to Roann.

He was called to preach in 1865 and ordained in 1872. Around 1880 he took charge of the church and continued for about twenty years. He preached many funerals in adjoining churches and was active in the district. He served on the Standing Committee three times.

Three times married, he had a daughter of the first wife who married Elder Dorsey Hodgden. A son, J. Henry, a deacon for fifteen years, was called to preach by the Roann church in 1896. David lived to be eighty-six, being blind for some years before he died.

J. Henry Neff moved to Sugar Creek in 1898 where he lived thereafter except for a year at Rockford, Illinois and three years at Manchester. He married Carrie Minnich, granddaughter of Elder Isaac Lawshe. He died in 1916, being elder of Pleasant View (organized 1913) and Sugar Creek.

George G. and Mildred (Sherman) Neff. George was born near New Paris in 1903. He was baptized on Thanksgiving Day in 1916; graduated from Manchester College in 1925. He has always been active in the home church and with his wife serves as Adult Advisor of the District C.B.Y.F. He has always been active in community and county activities. Mildred was born in Nappanee in 1909. She was baptized in the West Goshen Church in 1921. They were married in 1928. She has been unusually active in the home church at New Paris and served as music director at numerous evangelistic meetings, and as District Music Director for six years. They have two chil-



dren, one a student at Manchester College and the other at Purdue University.

### HENRY NEFF

The name Neff is very common in Elkhart and Kosciusko Counties. One family of the Neffs is especially noted for its number of preachers it has given the church. The father of this family was Henry Neff, Sr.

He was born in Botetourt County, Virginia, about the beginning of the last century. He was married there to Anna Frantz. About 1833 he moved to Southern Indiana. In 1840 he moved to Elkhart County, settling at first in the northern, and later, in the southern part of the county. Here he raised a family of six boys and three girls. The old home place is three miles southwest of New Paris.

He had united with the church and had been elected to the ministry in Virginia. He took a great interest in the work of the church in Indiana. He was a colaborer with Elder John Leatherman in the oversight of the Turkey Creek church. He did much to build up the church at home and elsewhere. He died suddenly in 1868 at the Union Center Church. His widow died in 1881.

Mary, the eldest daughter, married John Studebaker, a deacon in the Rock Run church. They later moved to Illinois. One of their sons, Daniel, became a preacher in the church. A daughter of John Studebaker married Abram Lear, and became the mother of Elder J. W. Lear. A second daughter of Henry Neff, Sr., Elizabeth, married Adam Lentz and became the mother of Elders George W. Lentz and Charles Lentz, both well-known ministers in Missouri. The youngest daughter, Susie, married Levi Arnold. Their son Charles became elder of the Solomon's Creek, and later of New Paris churches. Charles Arnold's son, Levi, is a minister in Elkhart City.

Two of the sons of Henry Neff, Sr., were ministers: Daniel and Henry Jr. Daniel Neff was an elder in the Union Center church, along with John Burkholder and John Anglemyer. He had three sons who later became preachers. William was elected in the Bethel Church, ordained here, but later moved to Beaverton, Michigan. James was elected in Solomon's Creek and was presiding elder there for some years until poor health compelled him to give up the work. Another brother, Jacob, a deacon, lived at Milford.

Henry Neff Jr. was called to the ministry in the Union Center church in 1892. He was ordained in 1904 and had charge of the Union Center church at the time of his death in 1906. He was followed in the ministry by his son, Charles, who later became the elder of the Maple Grove church for a number of years, finally moving to New Paris, where he now lives.



**DANIEL NEHER**

A native of Virginia, Daniel Neher moved to Ohio and then to Clinton County where he was called to the ministry, 1846, and to the eldership, 1858. In 1871 he moved to Southern Illinois where he was active. His wife was Mary Metzger.

Joseph D., his son, was elected to the ministry at Middle Fork and died there after years of service.

Another son, Andrew, moved to Kansas where he was elected to the ministry. Another son, John F., moved west after being elected at Middle Fork, dying in Oklahoma.

**LEVI AND BERTHA NEHER**

Levi M. Neher, son of Joseph W. and Hannah (Cripe) Neher, was born in Wabash County, Indiana, October 15, 1872. He finished the grade school, graduated from a two-year commercial course at Manchester College, had at least one year at Mt. Morris College, and did some correspondence work in Mathematics and Mechanics. He taught school in Wabash county, two years, then moved to Fruitdale, Alabama, where he taught three years, one of them being in the Citronelle College. He worked for a telephone company in Chicago for two years then moved to Milford where he organized and operated the telephone company, later adding a garage. In 1913 he moved to Warsaw and continued in the auto business. He was elected to the ministry in 1898 and ordained to the eldership about 1913. During his residence in Milford he engaged in the free ministry and was largely instrumental in building the church-house in town, and organizing the work there. After moving to Warsaw he was active in the work at North Winona until his death, June 18, 1924.

Bertha Miller Neher Stine was born in Warrensburg County, Missouri, March 8, 1873. She was the daughter of Amos B. and Sarah (Cupp) Miller. While quite young her family moved to North Manchester, Indiana where she grew to womanhood and spent much of her life. She attended High School there two years, walking two miles. Later she attended Mt. Morris' College, graduating in 1893. She taught school for a time in Wabash county, and later a year at Fruitdale, Alabama. July 17, 1894 she was united in marriage with Levi M. Neher, to whom were born four sons and one daughter, two of the sons later becoming physicians and surgeons, another son, Galen, dying of typhoid fever in the 1925 epidemic at Winona Lake. In 1908 she was given license to preach at Milford, rather unusual for that day, but with her unusual ability she spoke with great power, though with becoming modesty. In 1895 she was the author of a children's book, "Among the Giants," which had a wide circulation. In





**Bertha Miller Neher (Stine)**

1907 she began writing for the Brethren Teacher's Monthly, never missing a lesson for 25 years. She was also editor and associate editor of the Northern Indiana News Letter for several years. She was pastor for a short time of the Winona Lake church and did some evangelistic work also. She made a trip to Palestine in 1927, and thrilled her audiences and readers upon her return. Brother Neher died in 1924, and June 1, 1928 she married Elder A. M. Stine who formerly lived in Iowa. After several years of great affliction, she passed away at their home in North Manchester, September 14, 1948.

#### **SAMUEL NEHER**

Born in Clarke County, Ohio, elected to the ministry in Allen County, Ohio, 1863, Samuel Neher moved to Wells County, Indiana, in 1873. Finding a work just started, he became active in Wells and Adams Counties. For thirty years he was the leader at Walnut Level and elder at Pleasant Dale, Blue Creek, and Hickory Grove. He rode on horseback far and near to cover his appointments. He died in 1906.

His son, David, a minister, since 1894, has lived most of his life in Indiana. He is now living in retirement at North Manchester, aged eighty-eight.

David's son, Oscar W., was born in Wells County in 1887. He was called to the ministry in 1907, ordained in 1927. From 1924 to 1932 he taught at Mount Morris and since that time has taught at Manchester College. He was president of Mt. Morris one year.

#### **J. W. NORRIS**

A native of Kosciusko County, he was called to the ministry in 1904 in the Union church and ordained at Spring Creek in 1909. In





**Charles R. Oberlin and Wife**

1910 he moved to Landessville. While living there, he opened up the work in Marion, 1911. With immediate success, a congregation was founded and a house erected. For five years he was on the district Mission Board. He held many series of meetings and was quite successful as an evangelist. From 1916 to 1919 he served as pastor at Salamonie. In later years he lived in the Marion church and was working there when the church burned in 1936. Brother Norris died soon after this misfortune.

### **CHARLES OBERLIN**

The subject of this sketch was born in Wilson County, Kansas, January 3, 1889, to Allen A. and Rebecca Royer Oberlin, both parents having come from Pennsylvania. He united with the church on November 20, 1904, was called to the ministry in 1907 and became an elder in 1912. In 1910 he married Gertrude Shepler of Logansport. The Oberlin's have one adopted son, David.

Brother Oberlin attended Blue Ridge and Manchester Colleges. Following up the work of his father, who was one of the founders of the Logansport church, Brother Oberlin began what has proved to be an unusual record of pastoral service. He began as pastor of Logansport in 1911 and is still in the pastoral work, vigorous and enthusiastic, forty years later. He was pastor of Logansport a total of eight years, Hartford City, 1917-1919, Andrews (and Logansport) 1919-20; Monticello, 1923-29; Peru, 1929-1946, evangelistic work, 1946-48; Marion, 1948-51, and Buffalo, 1951.

Brother Oberlin has served many years on the boards of Middle Indiana (the only district in which he has served as pastor, for forty



years) having served on the Ministerial or Ministerial-Mission boards for twenty-six years; ten times Reading Clerk, elected ten times to Standing Committee but could serve only eight; and has served as elder of thirteen churches at various times. He has held a total of one hundred fifty-seven services of evangelistic meetings, helped to lead into the fellowship of Christ and the church fourteen hundred and twelve souls, and has preached nearly five thousand sermons. Surely, this is a monumental record of service.

### ISAAC DILLON PARKER

The history of the Church of the Brethren for 1910 records the death of one of her able men, Elder I. D. Parker, who passed from labor to reward May 21. He was born January 22, 1847. He spent his boyhood days in labor on his father's farm near Loudonville, Ohio. At the age of 18 he was left an orphan and without money. But he did have possessions that were of more value than gold. At 16 he had accepted his Saviour and found Him precious to his soul. The spare moments of his youth were spent in hard study, and he was now prepared to begin teaching. His youthful experiences had developed within him pronounced convictions of right and an invincible determination to be useful in life.

He first taught in the country schools, improving his vacations by further preparation in private normal schools. Later he taught in a graded school and served one year on the faculty of the Salem College, at Bourbon, Indiana. Though this early attempt of the Brethren to start a school did not succeed, Brother Parker became an ardent supporter of the educational movement of the church.

He has been a friend to all our schools, and has contributed more or less to the support of all. He was one of the trustees of Ashland College that selected Elder R. H. Miller as president of that institution in 1880. He later served as president of the board of trustees of Manchester College. It is due to his untiring industry and perseverance that the last-named institution remained a Brethren's School. When it seemed hopelessly in debt he entered the field and persevered until he had raised the money to cancel the debt and place the school as a free gift in the hands of the church. Some years later he performed a similar service for the Maryland Collegiate Institute. He was a firm advocate of placing our schools under church supervision.

In 1873 he was elected to the ministry, and ordained to the eldership a few years later by Elder James Quinter. He soon showed marked ability as a logical thinker and as an expositor of the doctrines of the church.

Brother Parker was one of our ablest evangelists. After his call to the ministry he gave up teaching, that he might spend more time in



**Elder I. D. Parker**

church service. For fifteen years he directed the work on the farm, and held from six to eight meetings a year. Not only did he succeed financially, but hundreds united with the church through his efforts. In 1893 he moved from Ashland, Ohio to the Elkhart City church in Indiana. During the first years of his service there over sixty persons were gathered into the church. His preaching was not of the sentimental kind, but full of reason, warning and persuasive appeals. At times in his great earnestness, he reached heights of genuine eloquence.

He was often selected to preach at the Annual Conference. He served four times on the Standing Committee, twice in an official capacity. He thoroughly understood church polity and had much influence in shaping the decisions of the Conference. He had few equals in placing on paper a statement in the best possible form. He frequently served on committees to churches. In this work he exercised great tact and forbearance, but was always faithful to the principles of the church.

He was thoroughly in sympathy with the missionary movements of the church and did much to gain financial support. In 1898 he became traveling Secretary for the General Mission Board. He traveled all over the Brotherhood and secured as much money as any brother ever



did. He did much of the work in the transference of Elder James Gish's estate into the hands of the Board.

On Christmas Day, 1873 he was united in marriage to Sister Jemima Moherman. He was a kind and indulgent husband and always strove to make home happy. Though no children ever came to bless their home, yet many over the Brotherhood looked to him as their spiritual father.

For many months it was evident that Brother Parker was failing in health, yet he was ever hopeful and cheerful, and did not complain. He continued to do his share of preaching in the Goshen City church where he had resided for the past four years. On April 12 he and his wife went to their old home at Ashland. His health continued to fail. He attended his last public service May 15 at a love feast in the Maple Grove congregation. On the same day he received the anointing by the elders of the church. The next Thursday he was stricken with a chill, and on Friday with an acute pain in the chest. Medical assistance could not relieve him, for the messenger of death had called. On Saturday he peacefully passed to the great beyond. The funeral services were ably conducted by Elder Galen B. Royer, who had been so closely associated with Brother Parker for years in missionary endeavor. The news came with suddenness and sorrow to hundreds in the Brotherhood. Especially was he missed at the Winona Annual Conference which assembled two weeks later. He was foreman of the program committee and had done much to insure the success of the great meeting at Winona in 1910.

#### **GEORGE W. PHILLIPS**

The subject of this sketch was one of the strongest leaders in Northern Indiana in recent years. He is a most forceful speaker. He was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, December 29, 1893. He was reared on a farm and attended a country school. He received his academic and normal training at Goshen College. Then for a number of years he continued his education, graduating from Manchester College with the A. B. degree in 1917, and the A. M. degree in 1921. In the meantime he spent two years in Bethany Biblical Seminary, and after some years of teaching and pastoral work he returned to Bethany and received the B. D. degree in 1935. He also did graduate work at Indiana University in the summer of 1926, at Bexley Hall Seminary and at Kenyon College at Gambier, Ohio, during 1933-34. While engaged in part-time pastoral work, he taught in the High School at Walton, Indiana for five years.

On May 26, 1917 Brother Phillips was married to Gertrude Schwalm, daughter of Elder H. M. Schwalm, who for many years was elder and principal minister in the Baugo church. She is a sister of



Dr. V. F. Schwalm, President of Manchester College. They had no children of their own, but adopted a daughter, Dorothy, when she was an infant.

Brother Phillips was called to the ministry on December 1, 1917 while living in the Rock Run church, and was ordained to the eldership in 1922 in Middle Indiana. While attending Bethany Biblical Seminary he was summer pastor in the Rock Run church in 1920. In 1926 he and Sister Philips began full-time pastoral work at Danville, Ohio, where they remained for nine years. 1935-1950 they served as pastor of the Elkhart City church. Here they did a wonderful work, the church having grown to be the largest in Northern Indiana—to more than 600 members. They now serve the Bear Creek church, Southern Ohio.

Brother Phillips has served the church well, not only locally, but also in the district. He has served on the Standing Committee four times; was a member of the Board of Christian Education in Northeastern Ohio and also in Northern Indiana when he returned; then he served very efficiently as a member of the Mission-Ministerial Board of Northern Indiana for a number of years. He has twice been moderator of District Meeting. He has been much in demand as a speaker at various district and ministerial gatherings and always acquits himself well. He has been Northern Indiana's representative on the Central Regional Council since its organization, serving as its secretary and treasurer.

#### **PAUL PHILLIPS**

Paul Phillips was born and has always lived in the Rock Run congregation in Elkhart County, Ind. He was always active in his home congregation and in the district was president of the Men's Work for six years and has served as a member of the District Brethren's Service Committee all but two years since its organization. He is a brother of George A. Phillips.

#### **AMSEY H. PUTERBAUGH**

Elder Amsey Hascall Puterbaugh was born near Elkhart, Indiana, December 30, 1851. His parents were Henry and Mary Lloyd Puterbaugh. His father was a deacon. His grandfather, Elder George Puterbaugh, moved from Miami County, Ohio, to Carroll County, Illinois, in the early fifties. In 1870 he moved to Elkhart Valley church, where he spent his last years.

Amsey was an active and earnest young man. He attended Salem College, the Warsaw Normal and the National Normal University of Ohio. He taught school seventeen years, including eleven years as principal of schools at Oswego. In this profession he had re-





**Amsey H. Puterbaugh**

cognized ability. At one time he was offered the position as superintendent of Kosciusko County schools, but he declined to accept.

He united with the Church of the Brethren February 17, 1869. One year later he was called to the ministry. He magnified his holy calling, believing that it was a great privilege to be called into the Lord's service. He was ordained May 29, 1884. He served as presiding elder of the Washington, Portage and Elkhart Valley churches. He was a trusted leader in his district. For eleven successive years he was writing clerk of the District Meeting, once he was moderator and twice he represented his district on Standing Committee.

He was a clear thinker and a forceful speaker. He had remarkable power in the pulpit. One of the noblest efforts of his life was the dedicatory sermon for Manchester College, September 1, 1902. This was among his last sermons, for disease was preying heavily upon him. His ability in homiletics was recognized throughout the Brotherhood. He often taught at Manchester Bible School for short periods. He edited "The Pulpit" in *The Bible Student*, and "The Preacher's Page" in *The Gospel Messenger*. He was a good judge of the merits of a book and served for years on the Gish Fund Committee.

In 1876 he married Rilla Clem of Milford, Indiana. Five children were born to them. His faithful wife bore her share of his trials and labors for the church. While faithful to his church, serving without re-



muneration, he taught school and farmed for a living. In 1895 he moved from the Washington church, back to Elkhart Valley, the scenes of his childhood. Here he spent his last days and passed away February 28, 1903.

Brother Puterbaugh was a man respected by all. He was able, and always sincere. Life meant much to him. His Christian character was above reproach. His hope of eternal life was a pleasure to him, and to labor so as to be worthy of it was his highest joy.

### **RARICK**

Elder George Rairigh (later changed to Rarick by part of the family) was prominent as an elder in Western Pennsylvania. His son, John, moved to Ohio and then to Delaware County. He died there and left three sons who were ministers: I. R. (Rairigh), J. W., and John.

Jacob was born in Pennsylvania in 1856. He married Rachel Snider, 1878, after coming to Delaware County. He was called to the ministry in the Mississinewa church in 1881 and ordained in 1890. He became quite prominent in the district, being an officer eight times and twice on the Standing Committee.

When the Brethren opened Manchester in 1895, he was one of the first students to enroll. From 1898 to 1905 he was elder of the Mississinewa church; from 1906 to 1908 he was pastor and elder at Indianapolis. He later moved to a farm, four miles north of Muncie. He preached in many of the surrounding churches.

Jacob's elder son, Ora E., was a deacon in the Muncie church and the other son, W. Carl, is a minister, called in the Indianapolis church in 1910 and ordained in 1915, in the White church, where he served as pastor, 1914-1917. He was born in 1885 and baptized in 1896 by President E. S. Young of Manchester College. He later was a student at Manchester and also at Bethany Seminary.

Ralph Rarick, a successful evangelist and pastor, now living in California, lived in North Manchester for a few years while he did evangelistic work. He wrote a history of the Mississinewa church in 1917. He was a son of Levi and Amanda Garver Rarick, born in 1893 at Royertown. He was called to the ministry at Bethany (No. Ind.) in 1914.

### **DAVID R. RICHARDS**

Born in Pennsylvania in 1840, Bro. Richards came to Indiana when quite young. His father was a Methodist preacher. David united with the Brethren in 1872. In 1881 he was called to preach and was ordained in 1893 in the Beech Grove church. He had charge there for seventeen years. He was a supporter of Sunday schools and was active in mission work in Southern Indiana.





### **HERBERT F. RICHARDS**

Brother Richards was born in Preble County, Ohio, September 21, 1883, to Lewis and Polly Jane Miller Richards. He was baptized in 1896 and married Mary Eby on December 25, 1904. They have two sons and two daughters.

He attended Bethany Seminary two periods: 1908-11, he took the Training Course and, 1916-19, he took the Seminary Course. Between these periods he completed his college work at Winona State Normal (Minnesota) and Manchester College. He took one summer at the University of Chicago. He was called to the ministry in 1908 and to the eldership in 1914.

He has held pastorates since 1912, those in Indiana being South Bend First Church, 1934-43 and Manchester, 1946 to date. Other pastorates included Winona, Minnesota; Chicago, Illinois (part-time pastor, part-time Professor of Homiletics, Bethany); Wiley, Colorado; McPherson, Kansas; and Lanark, Illinois.

Brother Richards served on the Standing Committee once and has been chairman of the General Ministerial Board, Northern Indiana Ministerial Board, and the Central Regional Council. He was a member of the Brethren Service Committee from 1940 to 1945 and was a representative of the northern part of the state in the State Council of Churches, 1942-43.

Brother Richards has gained many friends through his kindly, un-



assuming manner and his conscientious devotion to duty. He is an exceptionally able preacher combining deep spiritual insight with aptness of illustrations and a delightful sense of humor.

### **JACOB RIFE**

Born in Wayne County in 1826, Bro. Rife was of German descent. His father died when he was three. He grew up amid pioneer hardships. In 1846 he married Esther Stanley and they labored together for over fifty years. They had born to them seven children.

In 1851 they united with the church; in 1852 he was called to preach the Word; and in 1869 he was ordained to the eldership. He was a very able minister and had wide acquaintance and influence. He preached over nine hundred funerals. For thirty years he averaged above three thousand miles of travel in his ministerial work. He held district responsibilities and was on the Standing Committee several times. For thirty years he was the shepherd of the Four Mile congregation. He always responded to a call for service, wherever he could help someone. He had a beautiful child-like faith and lived a saintly life.

He passed away in 1903. In his last hours he expressed to his family his triumphant faith. His wife lived till 1915.

### **ABRAHAM RINEHART**

Elder Rinehart was born in Ohio in 1823 and moved to Cass County in 1847. Here he united with the Upper Deer Creek church in 1861. He was called to the ministry in 1863 and to the eldership in 1870. For ten years he was elder here but moved to Pipe Creek in 1881, where he lived the remainder of his life. He did a lot of mission work in the western part of the state.

His wife was Elizabeth Toney, sister of Elder William S. Toney. Her good parents in Ohio lived together seventy-eight years, dying at one hundred four and one hundred three, respectively.

Bro. Rinehart died in 1916, a little past ninety-three. His wife passed away in 1906.

### **MAHLON AND MARY RINEHART**

Mary Elizabeth Hay was born November 4, 1900, to Frank E. Hay and wife, at Anderson. They soon moved to Hagerstown where she united with the church at thirteen. She attended the Hagerstown schools and Manchester College. On June 8, 1921, she was married to Mahlon Rinehart. She has served as Chorister, teacher, Supt. of the Children's Department and is now Director of Children's Work in the district, Southern Indiana.





**Mahlon and Mary Rinehart**

Mahlon Rinehart was born on September 8, 1892, in Henry County. He united with the church at Hagerstown in 1917. He has always resided in this congregation. He has served his Sunday School as teacher and was superintendent for thirteen consecutive years; trustee of his church for twenty-one years; Sec.-Treas. of the Endowment Fund since 1928; member of the ministerial board since 1932; deacon since 1931 and District Treasurer for Southern Indiana since 1945. He has been a mail-carrier for many years and lives in Hagerstown.

They are the parents of three fine girls: Helen, Esther, and Dorothy. Helen teaches in New Castle, Esther is in nurses' training and Dorothy is at Manchester College.

### **ROOSE**

To John and Mary Ann Roose were born two sons who were to become ministers of the Gospel.

Hiram Roose was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 20, 1854. When quite small he came with his parents to Elkhart County, Indiana, where he grew to manhood. He was married to Mary Elizabeth Wise in January, 1881. To them were born three sons and a daughter. He had some Normal Training at Goshen and Valparaiso, Indiana, and taught school for a number of years in addition to being a farmer. He was called to the ministry in 1884 in the Yellow Creek church, and in 1898 was ordained to the eldership. He exercised in the free ministry in that congregation until the later years of his life he moved to West Goshen. He was elder in charge of his home congregation for many years. He passed away in November, 1932.

Eli Roose, younger brother of Hiram, was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, January 23, 1857. Besides the common schools he had some Normal training at Goshen. He taught school 18 years in Indi-



ana and in Harvey County, Kansas. He was a farmer along with his work as a teacher. On December 25, 1881, he and Ellen Culp, of Wakarusa, were married. They raised a family of three sons and two daughters, the youngest daughter, Nina, was married to Allen Weldy, a very prominent layman in Northern Indiana. Brother Roose was called to the ministry in the Yellow Creek church in September, 1887, and ordained as elder in the Berrien Church (now Buchanan), Michigan in 1896. He served in the ministry in the Yellow Creek church 14 years; at Union Center, 18 years; at the Laporte church five years, at the Buchanan church three years; at Blissville church, three years; and at Michigan City church five years. He always had a desire to found a church from its beginning. He had this privilege in Michigan City. He was the first pastor located by the Northern Indiana Mission Board, being located at Buchanan in 1895. He served as District Writing Clerk twice and his brother Hiram served four times. He represented his district on Standing Committee in 1910. He was elder in charge of several churches of the district at various times. He died March 22, 1932, his funeral being the first held in the new Michigan City church. Sister Roose still survives.

#### **ELDER JOHN W. ROOT**

Elder John W. Root of the Fairview Church, Southern Indiana, was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana February 18, 1875. His parents were Aaron and Salome Swartz Root who had come to Indiana from Darke and Allen counties, Ohio. At the age of thirteen he came into the church. In 1906 he was elected to the ministry and made an elder in 1919. He married Lulu Ulrey, daughter of Solomon Ulrey of near Pymont. Sister Root passed away November 3, 1950. She was



**Elder John W. Root and Wife**



a very faithful wife and companion, and helped her husband and local church loyally. She was of a pleasant, peace-loving disposition. Brother Root served as minister and elder in the Fairview Church for 39 years and gave his time freely to this good work. He held twenty revival meetings and conducted many funerals. He and his good wife were present together at many meetings and were very helpful to the local church. They presented the pews to the Fairview church and after her death Brother Root made possible from her estate substantial donations to many church enterprises—among them the Pymont Church (this church secured the old home of Sister Root), Camp Alexander Mack, and Manchester College. Brother Root served his people as a free minister and conducted his farming enterprise with good success. He was often a delegate to Annual Conference and served the Southern district of Indiana for twenty years on its Mission Board,

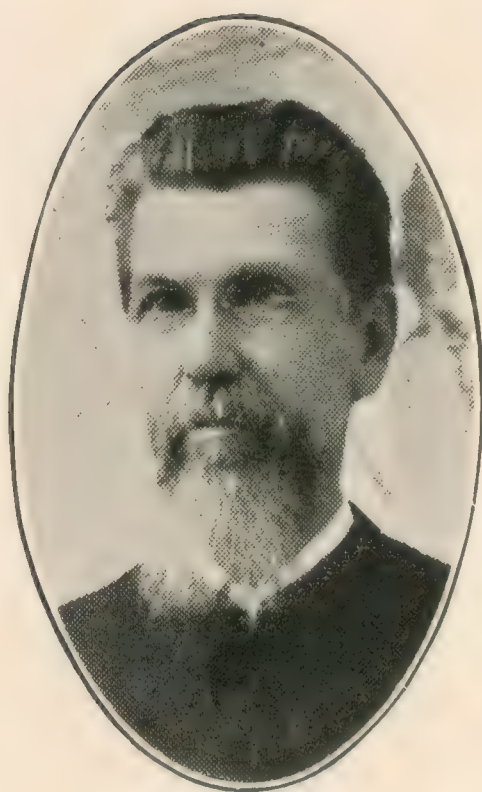
### **GEORGE PHILIP ROTHENBERGER**

George Philip Rothenberger was born in Germany about the opening of the nineteenth century. He was brought up in the Lutheran faith but was dissatisfied with the coldness of the State Church and moved to Zurich, Switzerland. He first joined the German Reform church and later, another body that had been started by a man named Froelich. He became a noted preacher here, opposing infant baptism, civil oaths and military service. In 1838 he began to advocate trine immersion. The next year Elder Henry Kurtz returned to Germany from America for a visit. He came to Switzerland and did some preaching. Several requested baptism, among them being G. P. Rothenberger. This caused the man Froelich to become his bitter enemy. He was persecuted very severely and had his faith tried in many ways. During these years he and Henry Kurtz kept up a correspondence. In 1845 he came to America, settling first in Carroll County, Indiana, and in 1851, in Kosciusko County. Here he became the leading worker in the organization and work of the Tippecanoe (now North Webster) church. He was its presiding bishop at the time of his death, October 30, 1881. His son Daniel succeeded him as bishop and remained in charge until his death. Another son, Jacob, became a minister in the Progressive Brethren Church at Lapaz, Indiana.

### **J. G. ROYER**

J. G. Royer, well-known figure in the Brotherhood a few years ago, gave twelve years of his ministry to Indiana. Born in Pennsylvania in 1838, he married Elizabeth Reiff in 1861. Ten years later they moved to Burnettsville. In 1872 he was called to preach and nine years later to the eldership. He was a teacher at Burnettsville and su-



**J. G. Royer**

perintendent of schools at Monticello. In 1884 he went to Mount Morris College as president, a position he filled for twenty years.

### **RUPEL**

This name is familiar in the Pine Creek church in Northern Indiana. David Rupel was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, in 1811. His parents Jacob and Anna, had come from Germany. In 1830 David came to St. Joseph county. In 1836 he married Sarah Melling. To them were born six children. In 1852 they united with the church, being baptized by Elder Jacob Miller. He was called to the ministry the next year. There was no house of worship as yet. So he built a house with large double doors so that it could be used for church services. He donated the land for a church, later on. When services were held in this house, he would announce at the close of meeting for all to drive over to his house for lunch and it was not uncommon for from 50 to 75 teams of horses to be fed and lunch for from 100 to 200 to be supplied. In 1856 he was ordained and given the oversight of the congregation. For thirty-four years he was the faithful bishop. During this time Pine Creek grew to be the largest congregation in Northern Indiana. He died January 24, 1894.

A M. Rupel, a son of David Rupel, was called to the ministry in 1875 and was ordained in 1898. He died in 1914. Another son, D. W. Rupel was a deacon in the Pine Creek church for many years. His son, C. F. Rupel, was elected to the ministry in 1898. His wife is a daughter of Elder Daniel Whitmer. They lived in the State of Washington for a number of years, but now live in Pasadena, California. One of his sons, Paul, was a missionary in Africa for a term of years. Another son, Claude, is the principal of the Hillcrest School at Jos, Africa.



A daughter of Elder David Rupel was the wife of Elder D. H. Weaver, who served the church in the ministry for many years. He died at Raisin City, California, in 1915.

Another daughter was married to Jonathan M. Cripe in 1876. After serving the church as a deacon for a short time, he was called to the ministry in the Roann church, Indiana, in 1901. He was ordained to the eldership in 1905 in the Oak grove church. Their eldest daughter, Una, became the wife of Elder Lafayette Steele. Another daughter, Winnie, spent more than 20 years as a missionary in China, dying on the field in 1934. A son, Charles C., has been a minister for forty-five years, thirty-three of these years being spent in pastoral work. He is now located at Milford, Indiana. Jonathan Cripe died in 1907, near North Liberty, Indiana.

Lois M. Rupel was born near Walkerton, St. Joseph Co. Ind. in 1916. She graduated from High School and attended Manchester College. She taught school for eight years, then gave a year of volunteer service in a mental hospital at Crownsville, Md. Later, she spent three years in Relief and Rehabilitation work in Holland and Austria. Has been active in the local Sunday School and C.B.Y.F. She is now employed at Elgin in the Audio-visual Education department.

*Lura (Shetler) Schrock* was born at Goshen in 1911 and for some years was an active member of the Mennonite Church. She married Titus Schrock in 1940 and united with the Church of the Brethren at New Paris in 1942. She is the mother of four children. She has been music director at evangelistic and other gatherings for 15 years. She is now district music director and directs singspirations in various parts of the district.

### SCHWALM

Indiana has had all the Schwalm ministers in the Brotherhood. There were three in number, a father and two sons.

Harrison M. Schwalm was a native of Eastern Pennsylvania and of German descent. He was born November 18, 1855, the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Schwalm. He had never heard a sermon by the Brethren nor one preached in English until he came to Indiana in 1875. He had only a little elementary schooling and was a farmer all his life. He united with the church in 1878. In the spring of 1882 he was called to the ministry, and ordained to the eldership in 1900. He spent all his ministerial labors in the Baugo church, and was its presiding elder from 1901 to 1922. On June 4, 1876 he was married to Margaret Spohn, of St. Joseph County, Indiana. They were the parents of eight children, two of the sons, Harvey and Vernon becoming ministers, and the youngest daughter, Gertrude, married a minister, G. W. Phillips. All of the children and their companions have been



members of the Church of the Brethren. Brother Schwalm preached many funerals and officiated at numerous weddings; he was elder in charge of the Osceola church, also, for many years. He passed to his reward November 4, 1922.

Harvey Schwalm was born in St. Joseph County, Indiana, January 22, 1882. He grew to manhood on the homestead and was baptized into the church in 1903. He and Susie Miller were married January 20, 1906, and became parents of one son, Merle Lamer. He, like his father, was always a farmer. He was elected to the deacon's office in 1908, and two years later was called to the ministry, being ordained to the eldership January 1, 1918. All his ministerial labors were in the Yellow Creek church. He was elder in charge, and the only minister in the congregation at the time of his death, August 18, 1922, dying of typhoid fever.

Kermit Eby, grandson of Harrison Schwalm, is also a minister, and is now a Professor in the University of Chicago.

#### V. F. SCHWALM

Vernon Franklin Schwalm is the fifth of eight children of Elder and Mrs. H. M. Schwalm. He was born near Wakarusa, Indiana, on April 10, 1887. After attending Manchester Academy and College he received his A. B. degree from that institution in 1913. He received his M. A. degree from the University of Chicago in 1916 also his Ph. D., in 1926. His post-graduate work was done in the field of history. He also took additional training at Bethany Biblical Seminary and at Columbia University.

Bro. Schwalm began his teaching career in the public schools near his home. Later he taught in the Academy at Manchester College, being appointed professor of history in 1913. In 1917 the deanship of the College was added to his work as teacher. He continued in this position until 1927 when he was called to the presidency of McPherson College, McPherson, Kansas. After fourteen years of service there he was called to the same position in his Alma Mater. He has now completed his tenth year as President of Manchester College.

October 17, 1914, Bro. Schwalm was united in marriage to Florence Studebaker of Muncie. They have one daughter, Edith Elizabeth, born March 26, 1920—Mrs. Robert K i m m e l. The Schwalm's have three grand-daughters, Judy Ruth, Peggy Ann and Jean—who reside four blocks from their grandparents.

Bro. Schwalm was called to the ministry in 1908 by the Baugo Church. From his college days he has been active in the work of the church as preacher, committeeman and church officer on all levels of work from the local congregation to Annual Conference. He was a member of the General Education Board of the Church from 1926 to





**V. F. Schwalm**

1947, and for several years its president. He is a member of the General Brotherhood Board, its vice-chairman, a member of its executive committee, also its Brethren Service Commission. He was moderator of Annual Conference in 1938, the meeting place being Lawrence, Kansas.

For more than thirty years Bro. Schwalm has given a goodly portion of his Sundays to preaching in the churches, along with many other speaking engagements such as teachers institutes, commencements, service clubs and the like. He has lectured at all of our colleges. In the fall of 1950 he delivered the E. B. Hoff Lectures at Bethany Biblical Seminary, which were the substance of his biography of Otho Winger, due to come from the press soon.

Both McPherson and Manchester Colleges have prospered under his leadership. He has done outstanding work as an administrator in at least three respects.

1. He has erected four beautiful, durable buildings, a men's dormitory on each campus, a physical education plant at McPherson and the Otho Winger Memorial Arts Building at Manchester.

2. He has kept the pressure on both faculty and students toward higher standards of scholarship. Part of this pressure has been his own personal example along with administrative encouragement and help to faculty members in research and graduate study.



3. Last and most important is the religious emphasis. Nobody who has worked near him has ever had reason to doubt his aggressive and loyal churchmanship. Underlying his active church loyalty, is a keen spiritual sensitivity. He does not allow the pressure of administrative duties to crowd out the reading of the Bible as well as many of the best current religious books.

Very large credit should go to President Schwalm that McPherson and Manchester Colleges have continued to prosper and serve under two of the major calamities of modern times, the depression of the late twenties and early thirties and the Second World War with its continuing aftermath.

*Mrs. Orville Sherman*, daughter of Bro. and Sister Abe Neff was born in Elkhart Co. Ind., in 1915. She united with the church at New Paris at the age of 10, serving the home church in various capacities and directing the music at evangelistic services in neighboring congregations. She worked at the Relief Center at New Windsor while her husband was in Italy and accompanied him and served in Venezuela. (For Orville Sherman see page 480.)

#### **RUSSELL A. SHERMAN**

Russell A. Sherman, son of Edwin A. and Mary (Haynes) Sherman, and a great grandson of one of the first deacons at Cedar Lake, was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, October 11, 1899. At the age of fourteen he was baptized by John H. Urey, and four years later, while still in High School he was elected to the ministry.

Always interested in education, Brother Sherman enrolled in Manchester College from which in 1926 he received the Bachelor's degree. Later he was granted the M. S. in Education by Indiana University and the degree of Master of Arts in Theology by Winona Lake School of Theology, having done nearly two years of correspondence work from Bethany Biblical Seminary. He also has graduate credit from Arizona State Teachers College.

Since 1918 his preaching and teaching careers have been almost parallel. Twenty-five of his twenty-eight years of teaching have been in DeKalb County. Over twenty years of his pastoral work have been spent in the same county: two years at Cedar Creek, seven at Cedar Lake, and twelve years at Pleasant Chapel. Two years were spent in full-time ministry at Springfield, Illinois, 1926-28; and two years at Phoenix, Arizona, 1944-46. Varying periods of part-time service were spent at New Salem, Bethel, Auburn and Syracuse, all in Northern Indiana. Special services were rendered under the General Mission Board and District Mission Boards: at the Church of the Brethren Industrial School, Greer, Va. 1928-29; at Circleville, Southern Ohio, and at Andrews, Middle Indiana.





**Russell A. Sherman and Wife**

Brother Sherman was ordained to the eldership in 1927, and has been presiding elder over a number of congregations at varying times. His interests have extended beyond the local church. He has represented his district on Standing Committee four times; served as trustee of Manchester College three years; was reading clerk of District Meeting four years; and moderator of District Conference in 1949 at which time he was elected to the Mission-Ministerial Board. He has also served on the Historical Committee.

May 31, 1924 Brother Sherman was united in marriage with Lydia Marie Wirt of Virden, Illinois. They have two children, Lura, who is the wife of a young minister at New Paris, Raymond Hoover; and a son, Marvin, who is a student at Manchester College. Brother Sherman is an excellent teacher, a clear thinker, and a forceful speaker, as well as a wise administrator. He is a leader in the district.

### **SHIVELY**

The father of one branch of the Shively family in Indiana was Elder George Shively. He came from Virginia to Stark County, Ohio, in an early day. Here he was called to the ministry and became both active and well known in the church. When his children began moving to Indiana, in the forties, he too came and settled in the eastern part of



St. Joseph County. He spent his last days in the Camp Creek congregation with his son, David.

Brother George Shively had six sons: Jacob, David, George, Joel, John and Daniel. The first two and the fourth were ministers in the Church of the Brethren. Of Jacob, a more extended account will follow. David was called to the ministry in the Yellow River congregation. He was one of the promoters of Salem College. He was the first elder in the Camp Creek church and was succeeded by his son, George. The latter died in 1899 at Nappanee. He was followed by J. W. Shively, a distant relative. Joel Shively came to Indiana in 1854. He was called to the ministry in 1857. He died at South Bend, Indiana, March 6, 1898. He was the father of Hon. B. F. Shively, the late United States senator from Indiana.

Jacob B. Shively will, for several reasons, receive considerable attention in this sketch. He was born in Stark County, Ohio, July 23, 1820. He was united in marriage to Anna Bortz, July 4, 1841. To them were born twelve children. In 1864 they had the great sorrow of losing, in one week, seven of their loved ones of scarlet fever.

Jacob came to Marshall County in 1845. He was elected to the ministry in 1851, at the time the congregation was organized by James Tracy, Henry Neff and John Leatherman. He was soon ordained and placed in charge of the church. With great energy and zeal he went forth on his mission. No sacrifice was too great for him to make for the good of others. He would go through snow and rain, ford swollen streams and endure every other privation known to pioneer preachers.

He was a man of large vision and breadth of view. He was the chief promoter of Salem College, the first college owned by the Church of the Brethren. Had his brethren stood by him, it would have been a success. But when deserted by them, he and a few others had the heavy burden to shoulder. This cost him his home, but without his complaining. He moved into the Union congregation and later became the first elder of the Salem church, when that was organized. He was tenderhearted, generous and unselfish, ever willing to give to the needy the things of this life as well as spiritual food and counsel. His service of love for the church and for the cause of Christian education should not soon be forgotten. He died January 15, 1899. His faithful wife survived him a few years.

Emanuel E. Shively, son of Jacob and Anna Shively, was born in Marshall County, Indiana, December 19, 1851. He lived on the same farm near the Mt. Pleasant Church for 67 years. He was married to Rose Morlock November 11, 1883. They were the parents of six children, one daughter marrying N. O. Troyer, a minister, and another was married to Van B. Wright, a prominent elder now living in Cali-



fornia. He was called to the ministry May 5, 1900; advanced, October 12 of the same year, and ordained to the eldership June 16, 1907. For some years he was the only minister in the congregation, and he served to the best of his ability until his death September 27, 1922.

Daniel Shively, of Elkhart County, was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 31, 1827, and died in Goshen, Indiana, at the age of 79 years, 4 months and 13 days. He was married to Esther Whitehead January 22, 1852. About this time they were received into the church.

When the Solomon's Creek church was organized in 1856 with Frederick P. Loehr as minister, Daniel Shively was chosen deacon. Two years later he was called to the ministry. When Frederick Loehr moved to Michigan in 1865, Daniel Shively was left alone in the ministry until the following year, when George W. Cripe was elected. For several years he was practically in full charge at Solomon's Creek before his ordination in 1878. He was the honored and respected elder of his congregation during most of his remaining years. During this time he had as his colaborers: G. W. Cripe, Peter Hammon, Joseph Hardman, George Domer, Lewis Muntz, Jesse Calvert, A. L. Neff, W. R. Deeter, J. H. Warstler and others. He worked well with his church and official body.

His education was limited, but his zeal was unbounded. He preached many funerals, baptized many, and it is said that he officiated at more funerals than any other man in Elkhart County. No sacrifice was too great for him to make for the church. His home was a hospitable retreat for friend and stranger alike.

He was not a text preacher, but could interest his congregation and often preached excellent sermons. He had the gift of song and was never more happy than when engaged in singing. At the Annual Meeting of Ashland, Ohio, he and Paul Wetzel together sang a German song. He lies buried in the Baintertown cemetery, near where the Annual Conference was held in 1852.

#### **D. P. SHIVELY**

Born in Ohio in 1841, Bro. Shively came to Miami County with his family when he was eleven. They settled in Pipe Creek Township where he did his life's work. He was married in 1864 to Harriet Little and they lived together till 1900.

He was called to the ministry in 1873 and to the eldership in 1889. He was a father to his people as he exercised in the office of elder. At his death in 1900 he had charge of three other churches besides Pipe Creek.

He was a trustee (ten years) of the Old Folks' and Orphans'





**Elder D. P. Shively and Wife**

Home; a member of the district Mission Board; reading clerk of the district meeting four times and five times its moderator. Once he was elected to the Standing Committee.

Bro. Shively was a man of unusual ability and personal charm. He was an eloquent advocate of the Word. His ministry in times of sickness and death extended beyond the membership of his church. He helped much in the management of the Conference at North Manchester, 1900. Soon after the meeting he died of a heart attack.

### **THOMAS A. SHIVELY**

Brother Shively was born in Miami County on November 22, 1883, to Daniel P. and Harriet Little Shively. Brother Al Wright



**Thomas A. Shively and Wife**



of North Manchester baptized him in 1904. He was called to the ministry in 1922 and to the eldership in 1924. In 1906, he married Myrtle A. Fisher. They have three sons.

Brother Shively attended several colleges but holds his degree from Manchester. For many years he served as a teacher, principal, and county superintendent in the public schools of Indiana. He has combined teaching with ministerial work for many years. He began serving in the free ministry in his home church, Pipe Creek, in 1922 and has been presiding elder since 1928. Five times he has served on Standing Committee; he has been moderator, reading and writing clerk of his district and for fourteen years on the Ministerial Mission Board. Another notable service he has rendered has been that of trustee of Manchester College since 1928. He has held many evangelistic meetings and has served in many other ways. Full of enthusiasm, Brother Shively has rendered a very fine service to the church and continues to do so.



**Levi S. Shively and Wife**

### **LEVI S. SHIVELY**

Shively, Levi S., was born at Piatt, Ill., Oct. 10, 1884. He was the son of John and Leah (Blickenstaff) Shively. He was married to Emma G. Whistler in 1906, to whom were born four sons: Willard, Forest, Ralph and John.

Bro. Shively attended Mt. Morris College, Ill., the University of Michigan, and the University of Chicago. He was a teacher in Mt. Morris College in Ill. 1908-1915 and 1917-1928; also in Ball State Teachers' College since 1928. After the death of his wife he married Edna Wolf, of Franklin Grove, Ill. She has been very active in the work of the church. For a number of years she has served as Children's Director of the Central Region.



In 1905 he was elected to the ministry, and in 1917 was ordained to the eldership. He has served his home congregation as presiding elder since 1946. For some years he served as Trustee of Manchester College. His home address is 2025 W. Jackson St., Muncie, Ind.

#### **DAVID SHOEMAKER**

Born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1789, a soldier in the war of 1812, Bro. Shoemaker was converted and was called to preach in the Sandy Church, Stark County, Ohio. He was called to the eldership there and later moved to Huntington County where he was the first minister and elder of the Clear Creek church. He also worked in Whitley County where he was a leader in organizing the Sugar Creek church. He did not live to a great age, passing away in 1855 at sixty-six. He was a highly respected church leader.



#### **LAWRENCE (L. W.) SHULTZ**

Lawrence (known as L. W.) Shultz was born to Isaac L. and Elizabeth (Ulrich) Shultz, at the old John Ulrich homestead eight miles south of Huntington, Ind., on the Lancaster road October 24, 1890.

In 1903 he completed the grade school at the Ream's School and in 1907 high school at Lancaster. He entered Manchester College April 1, 1907 and has been connected with it to the present as student, teacher, field worker, and collector. In the fall of 1907, six weeks before he was seventeen, he began teaching school at Zook's School. Two years there and one year at Lancaster completed his grade school teaching. In 1910 he began teaching in the high school at Lancaster Center, Huntington Co., taught one year and then taught in the Academy at Manchester College while completing his college work. He graduated in 1914. Then for two years he was principal at Lancaster High



School. He became principal of the Academy at Manchester College and served till 1923. 1923 and 1924 were spent in Northwestern University securing his Master's Degree. 1925-1943 were spent in teaching and in being librarian at Manchester College. He taught in the field of Christian Education. Since 1943 he has served as field man, manager of Camp Mack, and director of Brethren Tours.

On June 1, 1915 he was married to Cora Leona Winger of Sweetser, Grant County, Ind., daughter of John Martin and Mary C. Smith Winger. To them were born four children, Ruthanne (Anglin) Feb. 15, 1919, Betty Marie, July 31, 1924, Carl Jean and Carol Dean, May 29, 1929.

On May 29, 1910 the Salamonie Church called L. W. (and Noah M. Shideler) to the ministry. In 1919 the church ordained him to the eldership.

Since 1916 to the present he has been connected with the district work of Middle Indiana, as District Sunday School Secretary and field man 1916-1946, member of the Board of Christian Education, writing clerk, and 1923 (Calgary) Standing Committee. He served as secretary of the Calgary Conference Program Committee; as member of the General Board of Christian Education, 1923-41; as member of the Peace Commission, 1928-40; as member of the Brethren Service Committee since its beginning in 1940 to 1946. As foreman and supervisor he sponsored two shiploads of heifers to Poland in 1945-1946-1947 and he helped start the relief mission in Poland in 1947. Two tours of Brethren people were directed by him in 1949 and 1951.

He feels that his outstanding contribution has been in the field of Young People's work. He served as a member of the Youth Commission for many years; suggested the name BYPD which was adopted; was advisor of the Middle Indiana Youth Cabinet 1923-1941, and since 1921 he has served as a leader in the camping movement of the church. In 1924 he helped locate and start Camp Mack and has managed it to this date. It has been one of his chief interests. He has felt that college and church and camp have taken his full time during these busy years. He has been aided greatly by his good wife and children in these endeavors.

He served for many years as chairman of the Youth Council of Indiana and as a denominational representative on the Indiana Council of Christian Education and represents that Council on the Indiana Council of Churches.

He is also chairman of the Historical Commission of the Church of the Brethren which at the Manchester Conference was reorganized as a regular commission of the church. The publication of this book has been one of his main concerns.



**SNELL**

John Snell and his wife, Magdalena Brower, were both natives of Virginia. They first settled in Preble County, Ohio and later moved to Kosciusko County, Indiana. Four of their sons were ministers: Jacob, Daniel, Levi, and Samuel.

Jacob was born in Preble County, Ohio in 1836 and came to Indiana in 1844. He married Clara M. Bowman in 1860. They were the parents of four sons and eight daughters. He united with the church in 1868 and helped organize the Spring Creek congregation. Called to the ministry in 1871, he was ordained to the eldership in 1887. For eleven years he had oversight of his church. Having the confidence of his people, he was an effective preacher. In 1899 he passed away and lies buried in the Spring Creek cemetery.

Two of Jacob's sons were ministers and have passed away only recently. George, born near Sidney, 1866, married Mary E. Fitzgerald in Colorado in 1892. In 1897 they moved to Indiana and in 1900 he was elected to the ministry in the Spring Creek church. In 1913 he was ordained to the eldership. He served in the free ministry at his home church and was often elder of other congregations. His wife died in 1939 and he married Alice Lehmer in 1943. She died in 1945. Bro. Snell passed away on Dec. 30, 1950.

J. Amsey Snell, brother of George, was born in Whitley County in 1881 and married Estie May Kreider in 1903. He was elected to the ministry in 1906 and ordained elder in 1915. He served many churches as elder including Sugar Creek, Huntington Country, Pleasant View, Andrews, and others. Bro. Snell died rather suddenly in 1951 at seventy.

Daniel Snell, brother of Jacob, was called to the ministry in 1885, when he was forty-seven years old and made an elder in 1898. When his brother died the following year, he took charge of the church for a period of ten years. He was a man of strong personality and deep convictions. Failing eyesight compelled him to give up much of his work. He was on the Standing Committee twice and for several years was a trustee of Manchester College. He supported the college liberally by gifts.

Levi Snell, another son of Jacob was nearly sixty when called to the ministry in Nebraska but at once entered into the work actively and soon had the oversight of several churches. He was on the Standing Committee in 1909. His son, Jacob, was also a minister in the west.

Samuel was a minister in Ohio and his son, Harvey, is a minister and lives at Fresno, California.

Susan, a sister to the four Snell brothers who were ministers, married Robert Ross. Their son, Amos, was a missionary to India and is mentioned elsewhere in this book.





**Cora Miller Stahly**

Cora Miller Stahly, formerly of Nappanee, was born near Berlin, Ohio. Her grandfather was a favorite cousin of Jennie Lind. She may have inherited her musical ability. At the age of 10 she could lead the congregation in the metrical tunes without notes. She attended all the musical schools within reach. After teaching for three terms, she attended Manchester College, graduating from music and Bible courses in 1907. She also studied music at Wooster University, the Chicago School of Music at Northwestern University and at Winona Lake. She taught music at Manchester College for 14 years and at Bethany Biblical Seminary. She also was a private instructor for 10 years. She was a member of the Music Committee of the General Brotherhood for a number of years. Her home was for many years at Nappanee where she was Primary Superintendent of the Sunday School. For some years she has spent her winters at Glendora, California and her summers at Syracuse, Ind.

#### **LAFAYETTE STEELE**

George E. and Mary Steele lived on a farm in St. Joseph County, Indiana, in the bounds of the Pine Creek Church. They raised a family of four sons and two daughters. The youngest son, Lafayette, was born February 15, 1878. After finishing the grades, he had one year of Normal work at Manchester College and one summer term at Valparaiso. He also took some Bible correspondence work from Bethany Biblical Seminary, under Brother A. C. Wieand. He taught school for 19 years in his community and in Walkerton and North Liberty. May 11, 1902 he and Una Cripe, daughter of Elder Jonathan Cripe, were united in marriage. They were the parents of two sons and two daughters.



**Lafayette Steele**

He was called to the ministry October 19, 1902 and ordained to the eldership December 12, 1912. He served in the free ministry in the Pine Creek church, but he really belonged to the district because he was District Sunday School Secretary from 1906 to 1918. He was Reading Clerk at District Meeting four times and Writing Clerk once, besides serving on various district committees. From 1911 to 1918 he served as a member of the General Sunday School Board, part of the time as its chairman. He represented his district in 1917 on the Standing Committee. He was always energetic and very active in every phase of church work; was elder of his home congregation for the last five years. His busy, useful life was cut short by death August 1, 1918, at the age of 40.

**ORA W. STINE**

Ora W. Stine was born near Adel, Iowa in 1893. He was graduated from Manchester College in 1914 and taught there two years. He married Madge Ulery in 1916 and has lived in the Rock Run Church since. He was employed by the Rock Run Mills in Goshen for 30 years. He was elected as deacon in 1922; has been treasurer of the local church since 1924. He was sec.-treas. of the Elkhart County Council of Religious Education for 10 years; was alumni trustee of Manchester College for nine years; has been treasurer of the



local Credit Union since its beginning in 1943; he has been treasurer of Camp Mack since its beginning in 1925; was treasurer of the first Heifer Project in 1943; was District treasurer from 1920 to 1926, and was elected again in 1950; he has also served on the district Auditing Committee for a number of years.

### **J. G. STINEBAUGH**

Born in Carroll County in 1870, Bro. Stinebaugh married Mary E. Reiff in 1891. He was called to the ministry in the Bachelor Run church in 1897 and to the eldership in 1904 in the Lower Deer Creek church where he was serving at the time. Two well-known ministers ordained him: W. S. Toney and Jacob Cripe. He later served Beaver Dam, Delphi, and elsewhere. He was a fine man, of substantial ability, and widely respected throughout the district. He was pastor at Logansport for five years.

His son Walter C., and his grandson, Vernon H., are ministers in Indiana and are noted elsewhere. Bro. J. G. Stinebaugh was killed in an accident in 1932.

### **WALTER C. STINEBAUGH**

Brother Stinebaugh was born on September 24, 1892, in Carroll County, to Elder J. G. and Mary Elizabeth Reiff Stinebaugh. His father baptized him in 1904; he was called to the ministry in 1915 and to the eldership in 1922. On August 4, 1915, he was married to Merl Spitler. They had two sons and two daughters. In 1947 he married Olive Bagwell.

He graduated from the Akron High School in 1911 and from Manchester College in 1917. He attended Bethany Seminary, 1919-21, and, by transfer of credit was granted an A. M. degree at Manchester, 1921. He specialized in penmanship, studying at the Zanerian School of Penmanship summers, 1913-14-15.

He taught in the public schools of Kosciusko and Carroll counties, 1911-1914; Penmanship at Manchester College, 1914-17; in Walton High School four years, Onward High School four years, and Bunker Hill High School three years.

While teaching, he served as a part time pastor at Walton for a total of seven years. In 1930 he began a full time pastorate at Logansport, 1930-34; at Salamonie, 1934-44; at Pittsburg, Ohio, 1944-49; and at Wabash, 1949 to the present.

Brother Stinebaugh has served three times on the Standing Committee, ten years on the Board of Christian Education of Middle Indiana, district clerk in Middle Indiana six years, and numerous other responsibilities. He is the father of two college professors—Vernon at





**Walter C. Stinebaugh**

Manchester and Galen at Bridgewater, both teachers of music. His daughter, Mary Etta, is the wife of Don Holsopple, just now commencing a pastorate at Salamonie. Brother Stinebaugh has been a very substantial man in the service of the church, as was his father before him.

### **STONER**

The Stoners came to Indiana from Maryland about 1830 and settled south of Ladoga. David Stoner did not unite with the church till he was eighty-eight years old, but his wife and five children were members. His brother, Daniel, was elected to the ministry at the same time as R. H. Miller.

In 1893 David's daughter, Salome, married T. T. Myers, a prominent leader later. She died early the next year. Salome was a promising church worker. She had spent eight years at Mount Morris College and had taught school two years.

Samuel D., son of David, attended Ashland College while R. H. Miller was president. He married Lina Norris, sister of R. H. Miller's second wife, Emma, 1884. He was called to the ministry in 1890 and to the eldership in 1904. He was the elder of the Mount Pleasant church for some years. Sister Stoner, an unusual person, found time to write both poems and prose articles for church publications and encourage her eight children in their school tasks.



The older daughter of Samuel and Lina Stoner, Mary, married Grover L. Wine, whom she met at Manchester College. A sketch of him will be found elsewhere. Their only child, Salome Ruth, married Galen Ogden, a minister. Like her mother, Mary Wine has the gift of verse and has been an active helpmate of her husband's pastoral career. She has had a major part in the assembling of material for this book. They now live at Rossville.

The younger daughter, Rowena, married Woodford W. Peters, prominent minister and educator in the church. He was a professor at Manchester College at two different times and is now in Europe, supervising relief work in Austria.

David, a promising son of Samuel, died just as he had started a brilliant career as a teacher. He married Nettie Studebaker, sister of the wife of V. F. Schwalm. David was a promising minister as well as teacher when he died suddenly in 1915.

John E., another son of Samuel, is a professor in Indiana University. He is a minister and has taken great interest in problems of peace and international relations. Paul, another son of Samuel, is a substantial farmer and deacon in the Bethel church, Ladoga. The other sons were Norris, Benjamin, a minister in So. Ohio, and Joseph, all outstanding teachers and business men. All eight graduated from Manchester College.

### STUDEBAKER

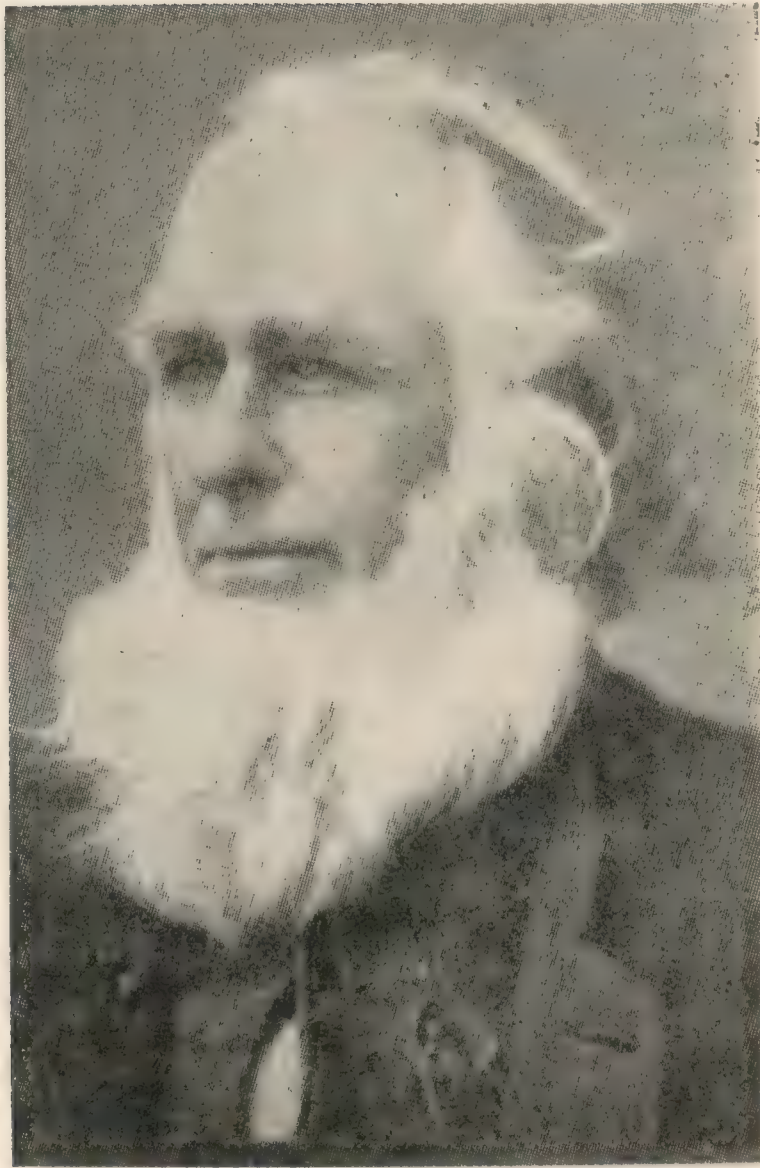
This has been a prominent name among the Brethren for several generations. The ancestor of these Studebakers was Jacob, of Pennsylvania. Four sons and the mother settled in Ohio after his death. The mother died near West Charleston, Ohio, in 1832.

Abraham, one of the four sons, was the father of John S. Studebaker and John, his brother, was the father of George W. Studebaker. John was the great grandfather of George L. and Alexander Studebaker, of Delaware County. David, another brother of Abraham, had a son John U. Studebaker. John U. and George W., double first-cousins, spent their lives together in Indiana from the 30's on.

John U., born in Ohio 1816, moved to Delaware County in 1837, the same year he and his wife had united with the church. In 1847 he was called to the ministry and to the eldership in 1859. He was an able leader and had charge of his church, Mississinewa, for a number of years. He died in 1901.

George W., better known in the Brotherhood, was born in Pennsylvania, 1818, moved to Ohio, then to Delaware County, 1833. A little later he was elected a deacon. The older Brethren gave him permission to exhort, provided he remained seated while he spoke. The next year he was called to the ministry, 1842, and to the eldership in





**Elder George W. Studebaker**

1850. He memorized many passages of Scripture and could preach ably in either English or German. On his white horse, he travelled widely among the churches. He was responsible for the founding of several of the churches. In a debate on the Brethren observance of the Lord's Supper, he upheld his views so well that his opponent acknowledged defeat and eight persons applied for baptism.

He was married four times and had a total of nine children by the four wives. In 1882 he moved to Fredonia County, Kansas. He was active there in the Lord's work till he was called home in 1905, at eighty-seven.

John S. was called to the ministry in the Mississinewa church in 1843. He moved to the Upper Deer Creek church where he was their first minister. He was not as active as George W. in the ministry. He died at ninety in Camden, 1906.

George L. Studebaker, two generations younger than George W. and John S., was born to Samuel and Elizabeth Losh Studebaker in Illinois, 1861. Two years later they moved to Delaware County, Indiana. At seventeen he joined the church, was called to the ministry at twenty, and to the eldership at thirty-two. He married Marietta Simonton in 1882. He was elder of Mississinewa till he moved to Muncie, 1897, a mission point, where he labored nine years. They had a son, Mark, and they moved to North Manchester in 1906 to be





**Elder George L. Studebaker and Wife**

near the college. Bro. Studebaker became field representative and business manager of the college. The son graduated in 1910 and taught four years in the college. They then moved back to Muncie where he served as pastor till 1932.

Florence Studebaker, niece of George L., married V. F. Schwalm, President of Manchester College, and has been very active in church affairs. Her sister, Nettie, married David Stoner who died in 1915. She later re-married and lives at Ladoga. Herbert A., brother of these two women, was called to the ministry while in Manchester College. He has been a pastor in the Presbyterian Church for many years.

### **JACOB STUDEBAKER**

Jacob Studebaker was a native of Montgomery County, Ohio. There he was born in 1793 and married in 1830. He was among the first settlers to come to Elkhart County. He settled on the Elkhart River, northwest of Goshen, at some distance from the other early brethren. He helped to erect the first city building in Goshen.

Elder Studebaker took much interest in the church. He was presiding elder for awhile at Rock Run. He was classed as an ordinary preacher, but a great friend to every one. He took delight in writing poetry. Elder Studebaker died at the age of 85, at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Jacob Ulery. The latter was the mother of Mrs. Eliza-



beth Miller, a widow, who became the second wife of Elder John W. Miller.

### DANIEL STUTSMAN

Elder Daniel B. Stutsman was a familiar person in the Elkhart church for years. He was a native of Montgomery County, Ohio. His wife was Elizabeth Bashor, born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania. They were married in 1829 and settled in Elkhart County in 1832. In this church he served as deacon, minister and presiding elder. He died August 9, 1887, having almost rounded out 80 years. For several years he was almost blind. He is remembered as a faithful and efficient worker for the Lord.

### SWIHART

The name Swihart is a familiar one in many churches in Indiana. Most of these have come from one parent family, Jonathan and Elizabeth Swihart.

Jonathan Swihart was one of the first Brethren ministers to come to Wabash County. He emigrated from Starke County, Ohio, in the early forties. He settled two miles north of Roann. Wolves and bears were then plentiful. Indians were their neighbors. Brother Swihart lived peaceably with these and was known among them as the "peacemaker." His wife was Elizabeth Metz. The father died in 1849, but left behind him seven sons, six of whom were preachers.

Aaron Swihart, the eldest, was one of the pioneer preachers in the Walnut church. He was elected deacon in 1858, minister in 1863, and was ordained in 1891. He died in a mysterious way from concussion of the brain, caused by the accidental discharge of a gun, while visiting his son at Brethren, Michigan. This was November 5, 1903. His son, Aaron, was a minister who lived in Montana.

David Swihart married Magdalena Seitner. To them were born five sons. He was called to the ministry in the Roann church, January 12, 1873. He proved himself an able preacher and was a leader in Sunday School work, superintending the first Sunday School in the congregation. He officiated at 175 funerals and 150 marriages. He was ordained March 14, 1901. Soon afterwards he was given charge of his home church. He passed away January 17, 1905, at the age of 72. One son, George was an active minister.

George and Jacob Swihart early settled in the Blue River church. George was called to the ministry in 1876. He later moved into the Wawaka church and finally settled west of Goshen, where for several years he was presiding elder of the West Goshen church. He died in 1916 at a ripe old age. His son, Clarence, followed him in the ministry



at West Goshen, while his daughter became the wife of Elder Calvin Huber.

Jacob was called to the ministry in the Blue River church in 1884. He later moved to Missouri, where he died. Two of his sons became deacons, and another son, Walter, was elder of Blue River for some years, later moving to Arizona, where he died.

Samuel Swihart, the fifth son, was a minister for the Progressive Brethren. The sixth son, Jonathan, was a minister in the church, but went with the Congregationalists, and still later, with the Progressives at the division. Two of his grandsons, Owen and George Harley, became ministers in the Church.

Mrs. Ralph Swihart, daughter of Eld. and Mrs. E. L. Heestand, was born in Elkhart Co. Indiana, May 28, 1906. Since her father was a pastor for a number of years, they lived in various churches; Huntington and North Manchester in Middle Indiana, and in Elkhart, Fort Wayne, Plymouth, Nappanee and Goshen in Northern Indiana. She graduated from High School and also from Manchester College at North Manchester, working her way through College by nursing in the College Hospital. She taught Home Economics and English at Nappanee for 7 years. She spent several years on the C.B.Y.F. Cabinet, and in the local church was Primary Supt. and Choir member for a number of years. She spent two years in the Geneva International Youth Camp and has been Camper or Counsellor for Intermediate Girls' Camp at Camp Mack. She has been President of the District Women's Work in Northern Indiana since 1947.

#### LEWIS L. TEETER

Lewis L., son of Isaac and Nancy (Shultz) Teeter, was born near Millville, Henry County, Indiana, on August 1, 1857. His early childhood was spent near Hagerstown, Indiana, where he started to school, then on a farm near the Buck Creek Church in Northeastern Henry County, where his father moved on March 20, 1866, and where he grew to manhood.

He had a good common school education such as could be procured at that time including three high school subjects which he studied in their district school. He supplemented that with much Bible study and reading of Church literature which he continued during life.

On May 1, 1887, he was married to Mary Anna Henninger, and in August of that year he moved to Middletown, Indiana, where he was engaged in the silversmith business. To this union were born two sons, E. C. Teeter and C. Ray Teeter of New Castle, Indiana, and Mrs. Perry R. Hoover of Lansing, Michigan. During his residence in Middletown, Indiana, he became noted as a skilled silversmith. He was active in the Upper Fall Creek and Middletown Churches of





**Elder Lewis L. Teeter and Wife**

the Brethren. He continued to reside in Middletown until the death of his companion on October 21, 1894, when he with his three children returned to the home of his father where he took over the management and operation of the farm, and where he resided and continued his silversmith work during the remainder of his life. On October 3, 1895, he was married to Phoebe Ellen Miller, who was a faithful companion to him in the home and in church work, and who was a devoted mother to his three children during the thirty-nine years of their wedded life.

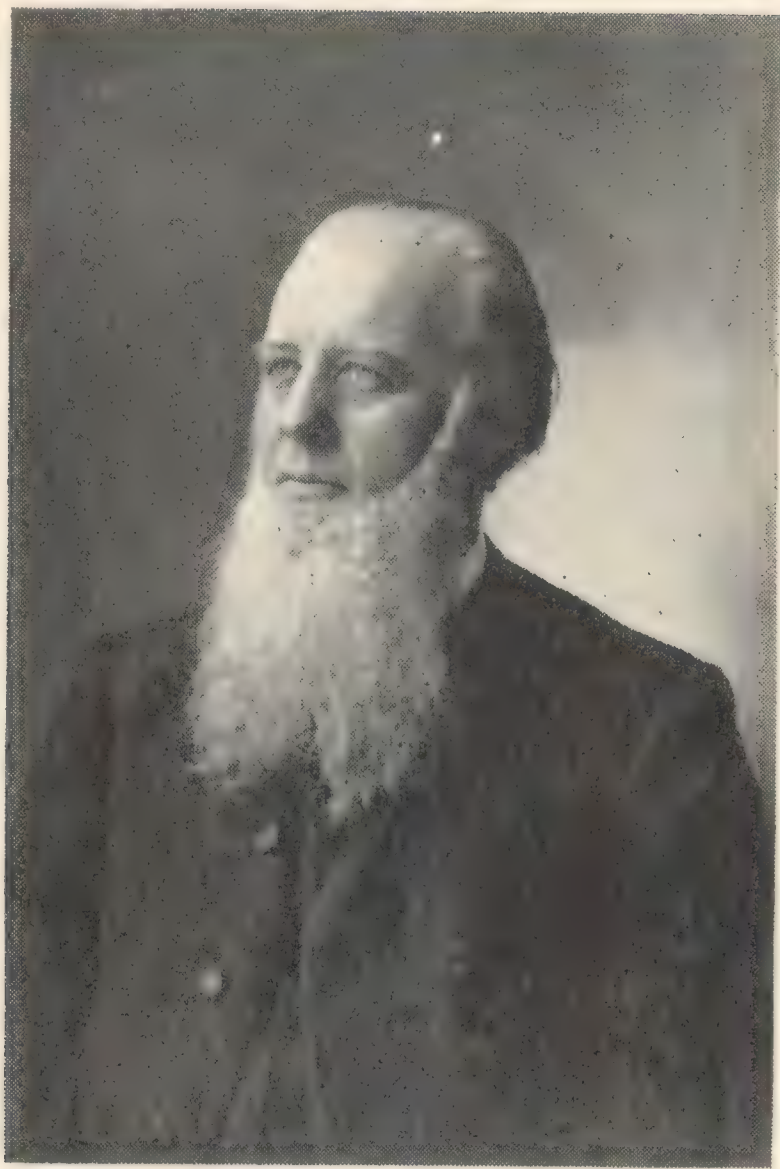
He was elected to the ministry in the Upper Fall Creek Church in June, 1895, and on the same day was granted his letter of membership to be presented to the Buck Creek Church, and was the presiding elder continuously until his death a period of more than twenty-five years. On August 2, 1919, he was elected presiding elder of the Upper Fall Creek Church and was the elder of that church until his death. Also he was presiding elder of the Four Mile Church for two years. During his entire ministry he attended regularly all the communion meetings at all the surrounding churches, and was active in the District. He was a member of the Board of Trustees of the Old Folks and Orphans' Home for twenty-four years. He was also a member of the Henry County Historical Society, and at one time he wrote a local history which he read at one of the meetings.

He passed away at his home on March 6, 1934, at the age of seventy-six years.

#### **LEWIS W. TEETER**

The subject of this sketch was the son of Daniel U. and Sarah Shultz Teeter, in Wayne County, north of Hagerstown, and was born in 1845. He attended the public schools and Newcastle Academy and





**Elder Lewis W. Teeter**

then taught three years. He was a natural student and pursued further study under private instruction or under his own direction. At the age of twenty-one he married Nancy Ellen, daughter of David Bowman, a member of a great family which has furnished the church many able leaders. They had one son who died in infancy, and a daughter, the wife of Charles Miller, who died at thirty-six, leaving one son, C. O. Miller who is a chemist at Milwaukee. He married a daughter of Elder I. N. H. Beahm.

Bro. Teeter served his church as clerk and as deacon for a number of years after he and his wife joined in 1868. Two great preachers were holding the meeting at the time: Elders Hiel Hamilton, and Samuel Murray. Bro. Teeter was called to the ministry in 1876, and, on the day he was forty, he was ordained to the eldership, 1885. He immediately was made presiding elder of the Nettle Creek Church which place he held for thirty-two years.

Bro. Teeter was a most outstanding leader. He preached four thousand sermons and officiated at over four hundred funerals. He served as writing clerk twelve times in his district and thirteen times as moderator. He was on the Standing Committee twelve times, once moderator of Conference, and twice reading clerk. Besides, he was appointed by Conference on numerous committees. From 1897 to 1903 and 1906 to 1912, Bro. Teeter was a member of the General



Mission Board. He served as a trustee of Manchester College from 1905 to 1917, the first trustee from Southern Indiana. In 1916 the senior class of the college dedicated their annual (Aurora) to him.

From about 1894 to 1904, he worked on his famous commentary on the Bible. He helped edit the Sunday school quarterlies for several years. He contributed many articles to the church publications.

In 1915 his wife died and the following year he married Martha Ulrich, a widow and double cousin of his first wife.

For many years this patriarch lived in Hagerstown, beloved by a wide circle of friends and known throughout the Brotherhood. Eloquent preacher, writer, evangelist, and wise counselor, Bro. Teeter was indeed a great man in the Kingdom. In appearance, Bro. Teeter was very impressive—the kind of person people would notice wherever they saw him. His remarkable features reflected a most remarkable soul. He passed away Oct. 28, 1927, at the age of eighty-two.

### TINKEL

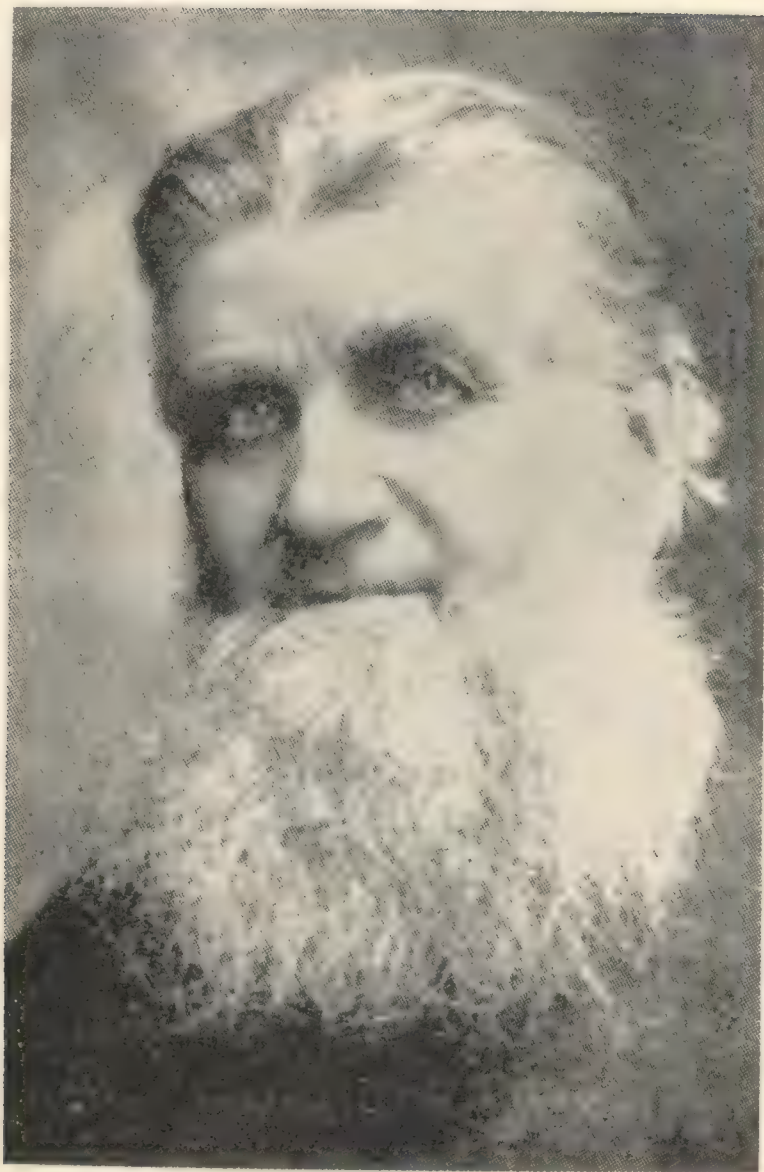
Henry Tinkel, a deacon, was one of the early settlers of Grant County. His son, Jacob, was a soldier in the Civil War and united with the church soon after he returned. In 1869 he was called to the ministry and ordained to the eldership ten years later. He was given charge of the Landessville church where he served with success. He was a close friend of and co-worker with Jacob Crumrine, of Wabash. Both contracted sicknesses from lack of proper accommodations while away from home on church work. He died in 1889. Later the widow married Elder John Strausburg.

William, eldest son of Jacob Tinkel, married Mollie Miller, daughter of Elder Martin Miller. He was called to the ministry in 1891 but died the following spring. His posthumous son, William, is an elder, now living at Albany. He graduated from Manchester in 1916, later took a Ph. D. in Ohio State, and taught for a number of years at Taylor University. He became a minister in 1916 and an elder in 1922. His pastoral service included Bellefontaine, Ohio; Portland and Bethel Center, Indiana; and Cerro Gordo, Illinois. He married Lulu Rensch in 1916.

### WILLIAM S. TONEY

Youngest of ten children, William S. Toney was born in Union County, 1837, to James and Sarah Lybrook Toney. William was raised on a farm in the Four Mile church. He received a common school education and studied at a commercial college. He taught school for a time till he moved to Cass County with his parents, 1864. There they established what was known for many years as the "Toney Homestead." Bro. Toney lived there till his death in 1911.





**William S. Toney**

In 1871 he married Mary Moss whose mother was a Rinehart. They had six children, two of them died in early life. Bro. Toney was a great father in the home. He was a successful manager, very industrious.

In 1874 Bro. and Sis. Toney came into the church. The next year he was called to the ministry and was ordained to the eldership in 1893. His ministry was a very active one. For years he served on the District Mission Board. He was one of the earliest and most persistent advocates of the Sunday school. He helped to raise the endowment for the Old Folks' and Orphans' Home. He contributed freely to Manchester College. He was often a District officer. He attended Annual Meetings regularly.

Besides his ministry, he rendered service as an expert advisor on road work, drainage, horticulture, and farming. He was secretary of the Tri-County Fire Insurance Company. He often administered estates. When anyone was sick or death had visited a home, he went to help, regardless of weather or other duties. He died in 1911 and his widow survived him several years.

### **JAMES TRACY**

James Tracy was one of the ablest preachers of his day. When and where he was born and raised we do not know. As early as 1842



he was a prominent man in the Brotherhood. During the next fifteen years he served on the Standing Committee six times, and on many of the most important appointments. Owen Opperman says he came to Northern Indiana "about 1852 and became our most active leader."

He is said to have been of Irish descent. He is described as a large man with a powerful voice. Though not an educated man, he was a natural orator, exerting a great influence over his hearers. He used many illustrations, especially from nature. He was a man of striking and positive characteristics.

He seemed to have but one failing. He could not make financial ends meet. But this is largely to be explained by his great sacrifice for the church. He was a good carpenter, but often lost work to fill appointments. He was known to have walked for miles to preach a funeral after being refused conveyance by brethren who were too busy to stop their farm work to take him.

His first work was at South Bend. From here he traveled all through Northern Indiana, preaching the Gospel and helping to organize churches. When the Rock Run church was organized they offered him a home to move in their midst. He was not to enjoy this long, for he soon sickened and died, April 30, 1857. He was only about 57 years old.

He had two sons and four daughters. One son died in infancy. The other son, John, moved to Nebraska, and became a lawyer.

### FRANK ULERY

Bro. Ulery was born in 1901 to Joseph C. and Mary Ulery at the Ulery homestead in the West Manchester congregation. He has lived his entire life in this community. He graduated from the Laketon High School.

Bro. Ulery has always shown a willingness to work in any capacity the church may need him. He has served his local church on numerous committees and boards and is a deacon.

Besides his work in his local church, Bro. Ulery has served the District very ably. He was head of the Men's Work of the District for four years. He also served on the District Brethren Service Committee. Also, he served as a member of the Equity Board. Wherever a piece of work has needed to be done, Bro. Ulery has always been willing to do it.

### S. S. ULREY

One of the first children born in Kosciusko County, S. S. Ulrey lived most of his life in the North Manchester community, particularly in the Ogans Creek church. He taught school for thirteen years in which work he was very successful. In 1867 he married Mary J. Tridle,



the faithful companion in all his work. To them were born ten children, several of whom have died. Seven of them taught school.

In 1875 he moved to Ogans Creek where he was called to the ministry in 1879 and ordained to the eldership in 1891, by Elder R. H. Miller.

He became a leader, not so much as a preacher, but as a counselor and administrator. He missed only two Annual Meetings in over thirty years. This gave him a very wide acquaintance over the Brotherhood. Twice he was on the Standing Committee. He knew the history of the Brotherhood as few men did and loved to talk of the affairs pertaining to the church. This was one of the last things he talked about before he passed away.

For some time he suffered from diabetes and it became serious in 1910. He died early in 1911 and was buried with funeral services conducted by Otho Winger, J. H. Wright, and P. B. Fitzwater. Six fellow ministers were pall-bearers. None of his sons were ministers. Calvin Ulrey was a successful business man and left a large estate to Manchester College. Another son, Alvin, was an active layman and was a teacher and banker.

### WARSTLER

J. H. Warstler was born in Frederick County, Maryland, June 24, 1840, and was baptized in the Middletown Valley congregation June 4, 1862, by Elder George Grossnickle. He moved to Indiana and located in the bounds of the Solomon's Creek congregation. Here he was elected deacon March 6, 1873; was called to the ministry January 3, 1878, advanced December 25, 1881, and ordained October 18, 1896. He always took a deep interest in the church. He wrote articles for "The Gospel Messenger," "Gospel Visitor" and "Christian Family Companion." He taught school in Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia. He served his church as presiding elder from 1896 to 1902. He was a worker under the District Mission Board for eight years. He has been twice married. His first wife, formerly Mary Ellen Harshman, bore him ten children; of these seven grew to maturity. All are members of the Church of the Brethren; one, Otho, was a minister and one is a deacon. The wife and mother died March 4, 1904. His second marriage was to Ellen E. Cline of New Paris, Indiana. He passed away in 1922.

Otho Warstler, son of J. H. Warstler, was born at New Paris, Indiana, October 26, 1867. He received just elementary schooling, and was a farmer all his life until retirement. He was united in marriage with Susannah Elizabeth Renfro September 11, 1887. To them were born eight children, the eldest son, Hugh, later becoming a preacher. He was a minister and elder for many years, serving



at Fostoria, Ohio, and Syracuse, North Webster and Wakarusa, Indiana.

Hugh Warstler, Otho's son, and grandson of J. H. Warstler, was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, April 16, 1896. He attended Business College in Ft. Wayne; took Normal Training at Goshen College; attended Bethany Biblical Seminary for a time, and also New York School of Engineering. He spent some time teaching school, did considerable rail road work, and was engaged in business for a time. He married Susannah Ebberly, and after her death was married to Esther Likens; following her death he was married to Kathryn Prowant, daughter of the late L. H. Prowant, on June 16, 1937. He is the father of three daughters and two sons. He was elected as a deacon in the Elkhart City church in 1913; entered the ministry in June, 1928, and ordained to the eldership in December 1944. He was pastor of the North Webster church from 1930 to 1936; did some evangelistic work; was an officer of District Meeting; has been elder of several churches. Since 1936 he has lived at Pontiac, Michigan. He has been pastor and elder of Flint and Elsie churches there. He is the present elder at Pontiac.

#### **E. PAUL WEAVER**

Brother Weaver was born in Everett County, Pennsylvania on October 13, 1912, the son of Mahlon J. and Fanny Ritchey Weaver. He was baptized by his father in 1922. He married Zalma Faw of Yakima, Washington, 1936. They have two children, a daughter and a son (born in Nigeria).

He finished his high school course at Johnstown, 1930, and spent the years 1930 to 1937 mostly in Elizabethtown (graduated 1937) and Bethany Training School. He completed his Seminary work at Bethany in 1945, after a period of service in Africa, 1939-1944. He was called to the ministry in 1932 and became an elder in 1941. He preached as supply preacher at Windber, Pennsylvania, 1934-35.

After his return from Africa and the completion of his Seminary work, he accepted the pastorate of the Salamonie Church, 1945. In 1951 he left there and is now pastor at Mexico, in the same district.

Brother Weaver is almost a national figure in the cause of peace. He has done very effective work in contacting public officials who are responsible for our national policies. He has labored hard to defeat Universal Military Training. He has taken an interest in other phases of good citizenship. These activities, along with his ability as a pastor, have made him a very valuable man in his church. He has been a member of district boards, moderator of district conference, and a member of Standing Committee (1946, 1949). In Africa, he was mod-





**E. Paul Weaver and Family**

erator of the African District Conference. He is now a member of the General Brotherhood Board.

*Edith (Pletcher) Weaver* was born in Elkhart Co. in 1892. She was active in Sunday School and Church work in the Rock Run Church. She attended Manchester College and directed music at fifty evangelistic meetings. She was married to William Weaver and they have two sons. They now live in Goshen.

### **THERON G. WEAVER**

Theron G. Weaver was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, May 3, 1890. He was the son of David and Emma (Culp) Weaver. He was baptized at the age of 16 by Elder I. S. Burns. He received his High School work in the Academy in Manchester College and also his Bachelor's degree in Education. He graduated with the Master's degree in Education at Indiana University, and later spent time in Chicago University.

On December 12, 1912 Bro. Weaver was united in marriage with Nina E. Metzler. There were four children born to them; Ruth E., who is now the wife of Robert Tully, a minister and College teacher. Paul M.; Fern E., now the wife of Elmer Yoder; and James C.

Brother Weaver has been a busy man; he taught in the public schools at Wakarusa for five years, then was assistant cashier in the



**Theron G. Weaver**

1st National Bank there for another four years, meanwhile rendering service in his home church in the free ministry. From 1921 to 1947 he spent his time teaching, most of the time as High School Principal. During this time he did part-time pastoral work, three years in the Cedar Lake Church near Garrett; two years in the Clear Creek Church in Middle Indiana; five years in the Walnut Church; three years in the North Liberty Church and two years in the Middlebury Church, these in Northern Indiana. He then ministered to the West Manchester Church as part-time pastor for five years, and three years at the Mexico Church, both in Middle Indiana. He then became full-time Field Man for Middle Indiana and in 1949 began full-time pastoral service in the Blue River Church. He is now pastor of a joint charge, the Middlebury and Pleasant Valley Churches in Northern Indiana.

He was elected to the ministry in 1916 and ordained to the eldership in 1923. He served on the Board of Christian Education and as S. S. Secretary in Northern Indiana and on the Mission-Ministerial Board and Board of Christian Education in Middle Indiana. He served three times on Standing Committee—at Nampa, Idaho, McPherson, Kas. and Wenatchee, Wash. He was twice moderator of District Meeting in Middle Indiana. Besides being a full-time pastor, he is also Peace Consultant in the District of Northern Indiana.



**LEVI WEAVER**

Levi Weaver, son of Elder Levi Weaver, was born at Smithville, Ohio, Oct. 16, 1852. He served many years as deacon in the Pleasant Valley Congregation, and was a member of the Northern Indiana Mission Board from 1898 to 1907.

**WELDY**

Allen Weldy served as secretary of the Northern Indiana Mission-Ministerial Board for six years. He was born near Wakarusa, Elkhart Co., Sept. 30, 1899. He graduated from High School and later attended Goshen and Winona Summer Schools; graduated from Manchester College with A. B. degree and from Indiana University with A. M. degree. Has taught school for 33 years, half of that time as principal of the Lincoln School in Elkhart, Ind., where he lives. He has been active in various school and club organizations. Has been active in the



**Allen and Nina Weldy**

local church as S. S. Supt. and teacher; a deacon for 10 years and Board member for a number of years. He was President of the District Men's Work and also Sec.-treas.; has been active in Camp work, both as director and Dean. He with his wife served as district delegates to Toronto Christian Education Convention and has a special interest in the Flat Creek Mission in Kentucky. In June, 1951, he and Mrs. Weldy were licensed to the ministry and on Aug. 26 of the same year they were ordained to the eldership. On Sept. 1, 1951, they moved to Flat Creek Mission in Kentucky and took over the work as manager. He has been president of the National Council of Men's Work and is at



present their recording secretary. He always attends Annual Conference.

Sister Allen Weldy was the daughter of Eld. and Mrs. Eli Roose, and was born Nov. 30, 1900. Besides being an excellent house-wife and mother, she has always been active in the local church as S. S. Supt., Intermediate teacher, member of local boards and committees, also President of Women's Work. In the district she was President of Women's Work for six years and is Chairman of the Dist. Brethren's Service Committee. She has also served for some years as president of the Elkhart Co. Council of Church Women and at present is first vice-president of the State Council of Church Women.

Homer R. Weldy was born in Elkhart County, near Nappanee, and has lived in the Union Center congregation where he united with the church in 1910, and was elected as deacon in 1913. Here he served as S. S. Supt., Music Director and teacher for much of the time since. He has been active in district work, being chairman of the Mission Board for 15 years; was Music Director of Men's Work for six years, and at present is a member of the Trustee Board of the Mexico Welfare Home.

### CHRISTIAN WENGER

Christian Wenger was born in Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, December 10, 1814. At the age of 20 he moved to St. Joseph County, Indiana. In 1838 he married Esther Studebaker, a daughter of Samuel Studebaker, one of the pioneer settlers of this part of the country. To this union were born three children. After the death of his first wife in 1851 he was married to Esther Ulery, who bore him two children.

He spent most of his life on a farm near South Bend. He was called to the ministry in the St. Joseph congregation. Though his speech was somewhat broken with Dutch, he was well liked as a preacher, for he was a very good man. He preached many funerals, not only for persons in the church but for those outside. He was always ready with words of comfort and consolation. Those who were children then remember his good words to them. He was a very successful elder and had presiding charge of a number of congregations. He was frequently appointed on important Annual Meeting committees. He is described as tall, slender and dark-haired.

### O. D. WERKING

Oscar D. Werking, son of David M. and Caroline (Rowe) Werking, was born May 12, 1878, in Henry County, Ohio. On September 9, 1901, he married Josie M. Moore. They are the parents of two sons—Mark C. and Ray H. For some years he worked in a factory and was also a rural mail carrier.





**Elder O. D. Werking and Wife**

In 1913 he became a minister and four years later he was ordained to the eldership. During the thirty-five years since, he has rendered a great service for the church. He has served as elder of the Kokomo, the Nettle Creek, and the Richmond churches. He has served his district several times on the Standing Committee as well as a member of various boards and committees of the district. For some years he was trustee of Manchester College. He is an outstanding leader in his home community and in the district. His home is at Hagerstown, Indiana.

### **WEST**

Brother and Sister Dan West have been outstanding Laymen in Northern Indiana and the Brotherhood for a number of years. Dan was born in Preble Co. Ohio, Dec. 31, 1893. He was the youngest of a family of five children, whose parents were Elder Landon and Barbara West. In his early childhood the family moved to Pleasant Hill, Ohio, where he graduated from High School in 1911. He then spent a year at Bethany Biblical Seminary; one year at Lewis Institute in Chicago; two years at Manchester College, receiving his A. B. degree there in 1917. He spent some time at Columbia University, a summer at Chicago University, two summers at Cornell University and two summers at Ohio State University. He taught in the High School at Pleasant Hill, Ohio for three years; at Englewood, O., one year; at Hammond Technical High School, Indiana, one year, and was Principal of the Trotwood High School, Ohio, for five years. He was with the Sherwood Eddy Seminar in Europe in 1928; was a member of the General Board of Christian Education 1928-30. From 1924 to 1935 he spent his summers in Youth Camp work through various parts of the United States. From 1930 to 1936 he was Director of Youth Work





**Dan and Lucile West**

for the General Board of Christian Education. Since 1936 he has been an outstanding leader in Peace Work for the Board of Christian Education; in Work Camps; in C.P.S. Camps; in Spain, in Peace Education; in Leadership Training; and with the Heifer Project. Few men have had greater influence with the Young People and in the cause of Peace than Bro. Dan West. Northern Indiana is proud of his attainments for the Brotherhood.

Mrs. Lucile West, or "Lucy," as she is familiarly known, is the daughter of Brother and Sister Jasper Sherck. She was born in Middlebury, Ind., Elkhart Co., Sept. 7, 1905. She graduated from Manchester College in 1930. She taught school for five years. She spent some years as a member of the Elgin Staff, assisting in Missionary Education, and was secretary of Women's Work. She served six years on the National Council of Women's Work as Director of Home Builders; was President of Women's Work in Northern Indiana for five years. She is at present a member of the Northern Indiana Board of Christian Education. She helped to create the department of Home Builders in Northern Indiana, serving on that committee. She also serves as consultant on the National Com. for Home and Family Life. She has served for three years on the Board of Directors of the Indiana Rural Life Association. Brother and Sister West were married in October, 1932; they are the parents of five children.

#### **NETTIE (CULLER) WEYBRIGHT**

Nettie Culler Weybright was born Oct. 22, 1883. She graduated from the New Paris High School and later from the Bible Department at Manchester College. She united with the Church of the





**Nettie (Culler) Weybright**

Brethren at the age of 12; her husband was a deacon. Has taught in the Sunday School most of the time since she was 14. She has traveled through every state of the Union and was a member of the first Brethren Service tour in Europe. She attended the National Council of Christian Education at Toronto, Can. and also the first National Council of Churches at Toledo in 1950. She was a member of District Boards for 17 years; was a charter member of the Ladies' Auxiliary Board of Bethany Hospital and also a member of the Trustee Board of that institution for the past 12 or 15 years. She has addressed many district and other gatherings and written more than 200 articles for publication.

#### **GEORGE D. WEYBRIGHT**

George D. Weybright, son of Charles and Nettie Weybright, was born in Elkhart Co. Ind. in 1911. He graduated from High School in 1928; from Manchester College in 1932; and from Bethany Biblical Seminary in 1936. He was on a cattle boat and served the General Brethren Service Committee in China in 1946-47. He has served as secretary of the District Brethren Service Committee since 1947.

#### **D. J. WHITEHEAD**

D. J. Whitehead was a deacon and pillar in the Maple Grove congregation from its organization, the church being built on his farm, though before he owned it. He served as treasurer of the Northern Indiana Mission Board from 1891 till 1909.

#### **JOHN WHITENECK**

Born near Roanoke, Virginia, in 1802, this man came to Union



County in 1825. Three years later he married Lucy Kingery. He was called to the ministry in 1842 and to the eldership between this and 1847, when he moved to Wabash County. Here, on the banks of the Mississinewa River, he built up a fine farm of several hundred acres. Through his efforts the Somerset church was organized about 1850. He was the elder of the church till his death in 1868.

A man of powerful physical frame, strong character, and impressive personality, Bro. Whitneck was a power in the pulpit. When a man died who had not provided for his family, Bro. Whitneck preached on the text, "But if any provide not for his own, and especially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith and is worse than an infidel." The message must have been obvious to all present. Once he refused to sell corn at a good price because some of his poor brethren needed it and he sold it to them at a lower price or gave it to them. Surely, this great man must have made a deep impression on all who knew him.

### WHITMER

In the North Liberty church, formerly the South Bend church, there has been a succession in the eldership of father, son and grandson.

Abraham Whitmer was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. At the age of 16 he came to Montgomery County, Ohio. At the age of 23 he married Catherine Bowman. She was the daughter of Elder Jacob Bowman, one of the first elders of South Bend. To them were born eleven children. In 1831 they came to St. Joseph County. Soon afterward he was called to the ministry and ordained. When the South Bend and Portage churches were divided, he became presiding elder of the former. For thirty years he preached in all this territory, experiencing every inconvenience of those pioneers. He died of typhoid fever in 1872, having nearly completed his 67th year.

Daniel Whitmer was born April 21, 1842. He united with the church in 1860. June 12, 1861 he was elected to the ministry by the unanimous vote of the church. He was installed by Elder Jacob Miller. He was advanced June 10, 1864, and ordained November 9, 1879, by James Miller and Christian Wenger. October 29, 1863 he was married to Elizabeth Inman. For fifty-three years they trod life's pathway together, raising a family of five daughters and one son; one daughter married a young minister, C. F. Rupel, and they have lived in Pasadena, California for many years. Another daughter married a minister, C. Noble Stutsman, both of whom have been dead for some years. Sister Whitmer died in February, 1917. Brother Whitmer lived nearly all his ninety years of life on the farm where he was born except for two years spent in North Dakota. While there he organized the



Williston Church and became its first elder. For thirty-three years he was presiding elder of the North Liberty church, later called Oak Grove. He also had charge of other Indiana churches.

Merril I. Whitmer, only son of Elder Daniel Whitmer, was born May 24, 1873. He united with the church at the age of 12 and was chosen to the ministry in the home church at the age of 19, September 30, 1892. He received a limited education, spending one year at Mt. Morris College. He taught school for several years in St. Joseph County. Most of his life, however, has been spent in farming, following the footsteps of his father and grandfather, and on the same farm. Brother Whitmer was married to Lillie Clark, September 20, 1896. There were five sons born to them. Brother Whitmer was ordained to the eldership in October 1904, during the seven years he lived in North Dakota. He followed his father, Daniel Whitmer, his grandfather, Abraham Whitmer, and his great-grandfather, Jacob Bowman as elder of the home church, North Liberty, later called Oak Grove, for a number of years. When he returned from North Dakota, he moved his family to North Manchester, to give his sons the benefit of the college. Afterwards he moved back to St. Joseph County, having his membership in the Pine Creek Church since. His wife passed to her reward a few years ago.



**G. L. and Mary Stoner Wine**

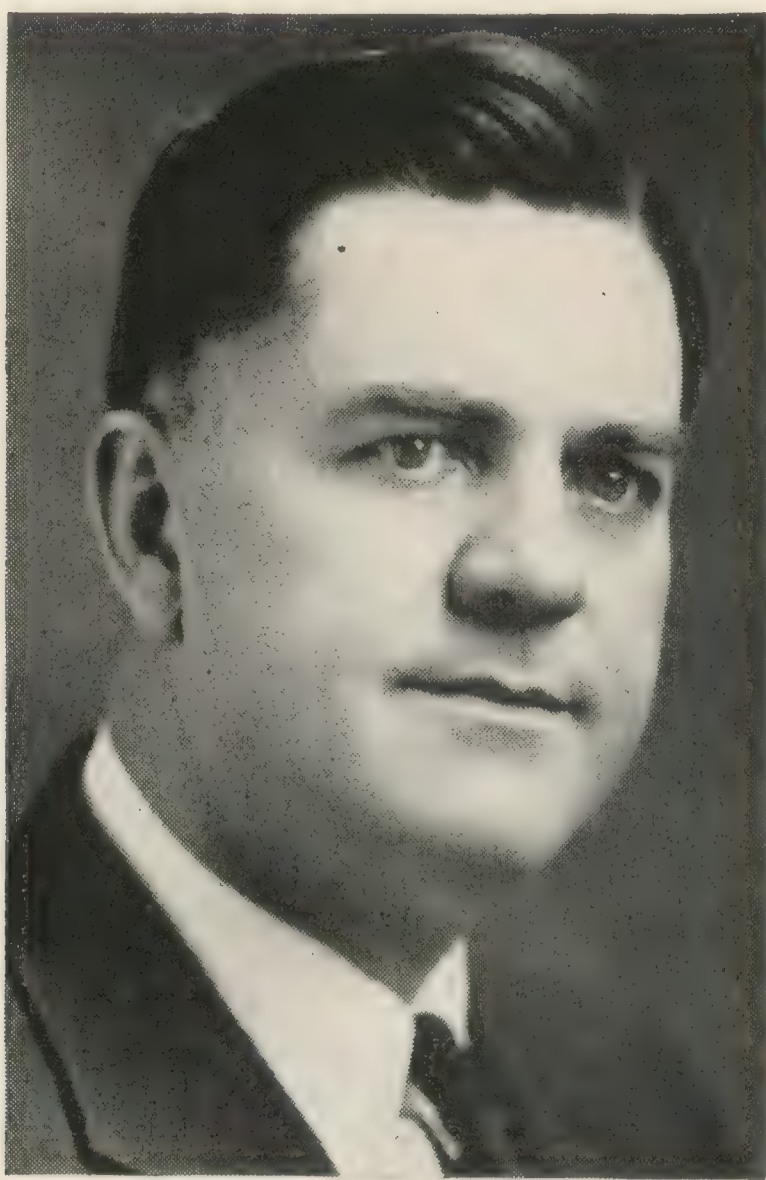


**GROVER L. WINE**

Bro. Wine was born in Allen County, Ohio to John H. and Mary Miller Wine, 1886. He graduated from Manchester College and later took a B. D. degree at Juniata. He was called to the ministry at twenty, 1906, and to the eldership in 1919.

Bro. Wine has served the following churches: Huntington City and Manchester, in Indiana; Polo, Illinois; Fairview, Pennsylvania; Mt. Morris, Illinois; Bridgewater, Virginia; Covington, Ohio; Greenville, Ohio, and Rossville and Pymont, Indiana, where he is now serving as pastor.

He married Mary Stoner in 1911. A brief account of her will be found under the Stoner family. Bro. Wine is a preacher of ability and a very consecrated servant of the Lord. Having held pastorates in widely scattered places, Bro. Wine is well known over much of the Brotherhood.

**J. O. WINGER**

J. Oscar was the son of John and Mary Winger, born March 31, 1891, in Grant County. He was baptized in 1901 and married Lofa Eikenberry in 1912. He taught business subjects in the Bluffton High School for four years and for an equal period in the Muncie High School. He had taken training in this field at Manchester Col-



lege. While teaching at Muncie, he was called to the ministry, 1920, and was ordained three years later. He preached at Bethel Center, greatly strengthening the church there. He moved to Manchester about 1921 or 1922 and, for many years, served as an instructor or as a field representative of the college, along with which work he did an amazing amount of preaching and lecturing.

To Brother and Sister Winger were born two daughters. Mary Elizabeth married Lester Young who is now pastor of the North Winona Church. They have a daughter, Barbara Ann. Dorothy Louise married Ivan Fry who is now pastor of the Toledo church. They have a young son, Randall Joseph.

Bro. Winger became widely known as an evangelist and held many meetings. He was in such a meeting when his final summons came, August 23, 1947, just about one year after the death of his brother, Otho Winger. Following his pastoral work at Bethel Center, he served Liberty Mills for several years and, in his later years, Akron, Ohio, and Nappanee, each for over a year. He spoke on many special occasions in the churches. He was in great demand as a speaker for clubs, institutes, high schools, and interdenominational gatherings. He often combined a series of meetings with a period of canvassing for the college in a particular area. This intensive program undoubtedly was a factor in his early death.

In the district, he served for many years on the Mission-Ministerial Board. He was elder of numerous churches. He was three times moderator of the District Conference in Middle Indiana and reading clerk once. Four times he represented his district on the Standing Committee.

Like his brother, Otho, he gave his life for the two closely related interests that were uppermost in his life—the church and the college. He had a contagiously enthusiastic faith which those who knew him remember so well. Few men have been as bighearted and generous as he. His work, given at such great personal sacrifice, is our sacred heritage.

### **OTHO WINGER**

Otho Winger, undoubtedly the most forceful personality produced by the Indiana Church of the Brethren, was the eldest child of John M. and Mary Smith Winger. He was born on October 23, 1877 near Somerset, Indiana, within the bounds of the Cart Creek Church. His parents were faithful members of the church and Otho became a member in his eleventh year. He was busy and active in Sunday School and Church work throughout his later boyhood and young manhood. He was a strong active young man, interested in swimming and other sports. He early gave evidence of his deep religious inclinations.



He visited the sick faithfully and took an interest in the religious welfare of others.

When he was 18 he purposed to go to College but was prevented because of an injury his father suffered. So without high school or college work he began teaching in 1895 and continued teaching an Indian School for three years. In 1898 he entered Manchester College. During a few months in the midst of his college career he went out to help solicit funds for the College to save it from bankruptcy. In 1902, he went to Indiana University where he received both his A. B. and A. M. degrees. Between his intervals at Indiana University he served as Principal of the High School at Sweetser and as Superintendent of Schools at Hope, Indiana. Immediately after receiving his A. M. degree at Indiana University in 1907 he came to Manchester College as Professor of History and Education. He soon came to be one of Manchester's strongest teachers.

He was married to Ida Miller in 1902 and to this union were born two sons, Robert, August 20, 1903, and Paul on April 10, 1907.

In 1910, Otho Winger was elected vice-president of the College and in January, 1911, he was elected President, a post he held for 30 years. With tremendous energy and deepest dedication he now threw himself into the job of building a college. Up to that time Manchester was but an Academy and Bible School. President Winger took the weak struggling college with a weak faculty, few small buildings, and meager funds, and built it up into a college that enrolled regularly from 600 to 675 students, and had an annual enrollment of more than 1,000. Furthermore, he had its boundaries extended so that it included in its constituencies all the Old Northwest territory, and was now fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges.

Otho Winger was called to the ministry when he was 19 years old, was ordained Elder in 1910. He was District Sunday School secretary for a time, served as District Moderator a number of times. He was elected Reading Clerk of Annual Conference in the years 1915, 1917, and 1919. During each of these years H. C. Early was Moderator. In 1921, 1923, 1925, 1928, 1931, and again in 1934 he served as Moderator of Annual Conference. In 1912, he was appointed to the Mission Board and in 1924 he was made Chairman of the Board following H. C. Early. This post he held for 16 years. He served on the Mission Board from 1912 till 1943.

He also served on the Educational Board of the Church for a number of years. George L. Studebaker, J. H. Longenecker and Otho Winger revised the Minutes of Annual Meeting and published the Revised minutes in 1922.

Otho Winger was a forceful preacher. He preached many dedication sermons, baccalaureate sermons, harvest meeting sermons, gave



many commencement addresses. His preaching was direct, and forceful, and was well-received. He was a prodigious letter writer, a frequent visitor to the sick and those in distress.

He also found time to write books: His first book was on the life of Robert H. Miller, Sr., later he wrote a "History of the Brethren in Indiana," "History and Doctrines of the Church of the Brethren," "Memories of Manchester," "A Tribute to Ida Miller Winger," and several Indian books.

He was an indefatigable worker, working unbelievable hours for many years. He had a brilliant mind, was alert, alive, vigorous and forceful. He loved people and gave himself to them unreservedly. His great strength lay in his forceful and winsome personality, his prodigious energy, his devotion to his task, and his great faith. No one of his generation excelled him in the impact he made on the church of his day. In every way he was a great man.

He became ill in 1936 from a sinus infection and complications that followed. In 1940, he was stricken with peripheral paralysis. From about 1943, he weakened increasingly until his death in 1946. He had been a great teacher, a great President, a great churchman, and a useful citizen, and a friend to thousands!

### WRIGHT

Peter Wright was one of the early settlers in Chester Township, Wabash County. He entered a farm six miles southeast of North Manchester in 1844 and received his deed from the federal government. Here Peter Wright and his wife raised a large family, including two preachers, John H. and A. L. Wright. The father died in 1911.

John H. Wright was born in 1850. He was a studious boy and became a teacher which profession he followed till the ministry claimed



**Elder J. H. Wright and Wife**



his major attention. He was elected at Ogans Creek in 1874, only about two months after he had united with the church. In 1881 he was made an elder. In 1882 he was given charge of his home church which place he held for twenty-two years.

In 1875 he married Lucinda Shock, at a morning service in the Leslie Schoolhouse, in the presence of the congregation by G. W. Cripe. They had two daughters, Etta, who married Elder T. D. Butterbaugh, and Della, who died as the result of a gasoline explosion in the home while the parents were away, 1902.

Bro. Wright served the Huntington and Rossville churches and was presiding elder of the Manchester church for some years. For many years he lived in North Manchester, where he died.

He served on the Standing Committee six times and was an officer of the district seventeen times. He was always a man of good counsel, conservative but not reactionary. He sang solo hymns before the congregation after he was eighty years old. He wrote a number of songs and other poems.

A. L. Wright, brother of John H., was called to the ministry in the Manchester church 1887. He must have been ordained before 1899, for he was elder of his church from 1899 to 1911. He was on the Standing Committee twice and served numerous times as a district officer. He served one term on the District Mission Board. This man was a consecrated faithful worker for many years in his home church, Manchester.



**Elder Daniel Wysong and Wife**

### **DANIEL AND HENRY WYSONG**

Daniel and Henry Wysong were the only ministers by this name in the Brotherhood. Their great-grandfather, Valentine Wysong, emigrated from France to Virginia at an early day. Their grandfather, Jacob, was born near Richmond, Virginia. Their father's name was



Robert. Their mother was Anna Miller, a daughter of Elder Daniel Miller, a minister in the Church of the Brethren.

Daniel Wysong was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, September 28, 1842. When he was three years old his father moved to Elkhart County. He was eager to learn and took advantage of the few school privileges of those days. He taught school for several years. In 1862 he was united in marriage to Mary Miller. They settled on a farm two miles east of Nappanee, Indiana. Here he built up a good home. They raised a family of three sons and four daughters. He was elected deacon October 3, 1873. One year later he was called to the ministry. He proved faithful to that call for more than fifty years. Though engaged in farming he found time to hold many series of meetings. Hundreds have been brought into the church through his efforts, blessed by the Holy Spirit. He was ordained December 17, 1898, and had charge of the Turkey Creek church from that date until 1906. He was a member of Standing Committee in 1910. He and his wife lived in Nappanee for a number of years before his death, January, 1924.

Henry Wysong was ten years younger than his brother Daniel, being born February 6, 1853. He received a limited education, spending some time in school at Goshen and at Terre Haute. He spent some years teaching school and was a farmer most of his life, always living on a farm near the Turkey Creek church. He was married to Lovina Miller September 6, 1875. Three Wysong brothers married three Miller sisters. They raised a family of two sons and two daughters. He was called to the ministry September 29, 1898, advanced three months later and ordained to the eldership December 1, 1904. He always exercised in the free ministry. He was a member of the District Mission Board for four years and of the Ministerial Board for three years. He passed away November 19, 1935.

### YODER

Harold Yoder of the Second South Bend Church was born in Elkhart Co. in 1903. He was graduated from the South Bend College of Commerce and has been employed as a bookkeeper since 1922. He united with the church in 1923; elected to the deacon's office in 1925. He married Ella Flory of the Camp Creek church; was president of the District Men's Work for three years; served as district treasurer for six years; and served the General Brotherhood on the Auditing Committee.

D. R. Yoder was a charter member of the Goshen City Church and still resides there. He was elected as deacon there in 1909. He was a member of the Northern Indiana Mission Board from 1911 to 1927.



**A. C. YOUNG**

Born in Darke County, Ohio in 1854, A. C. Young was called to the ministry in the Pleasant Valley congregation in 1889. In 1893 he moved to Mississinewa where he was ordained in 1900, by George L. Studebaker and I. E. Branson. He was married to Minerva Landis by whom he had two sons. She died in 1899. The next year he married Mrs. Melissa Pulley, widow of a minister, W. L. Pulley. For two years he was pastor of the Carrington, North Dakota, church. He was elder of his home church, Mississinewa, for several years. In 1912 he moved to the West Manchester church where he was elder for two years. He died in 1916.

His son, Samuel L. is a minister, living in the West Manchester congregation, having been called in 1910 and ordained in 1919. He served the Covington, North Dakota, church but has lived for many years a few miles west of North Manchester.

Lester, older son of Samuel, was called to the ministry in 1940 and ordained in 1949. He married Mary Elizabeth, daughter of J. O. Winger. He has held pastorates at North Webster, 1942-44, and North Winona, 1947-. He has also been very active in Young People's work and Men's work. His brother, Bruce, is also active in youth work.

**ELDER GEORGE D. ZOLLERS**

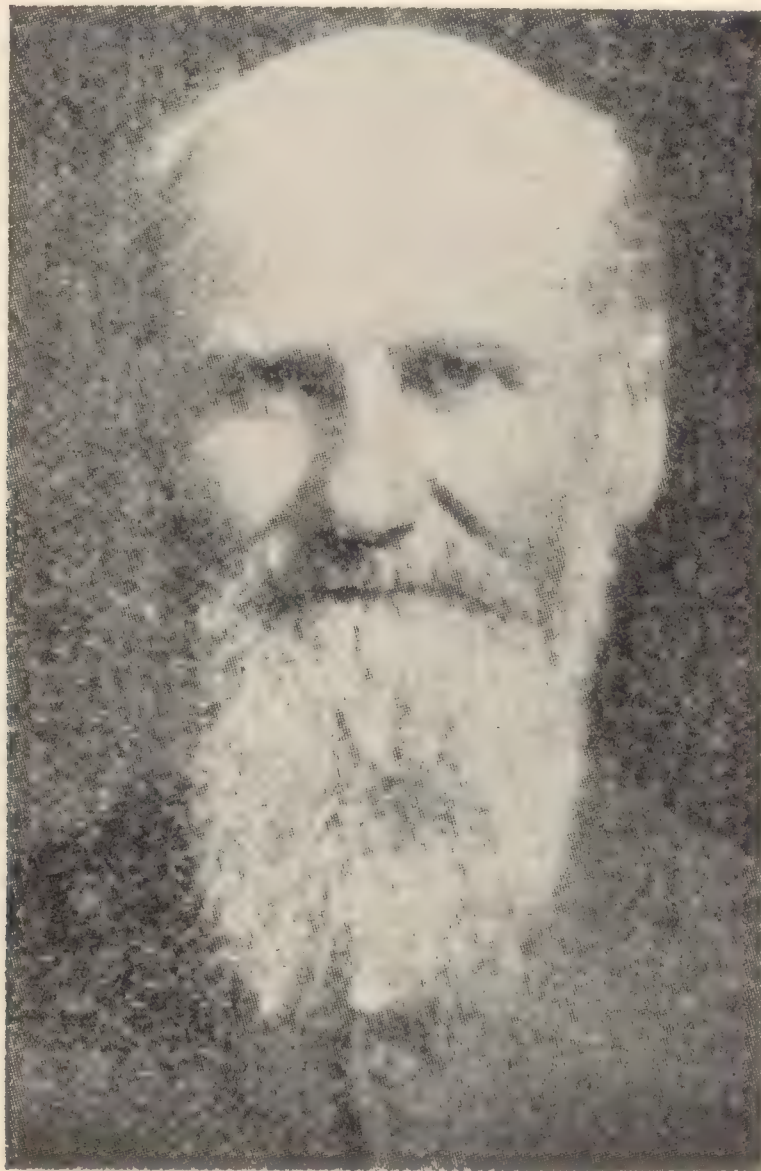
The death of Brother George D. Zollers occurred on the afternoon of April 18, 1911. He had gone to the roof of his home to repair the chimney. When through with that he proceeded to repair a few places on the roof, and in some manner slipped and fell, striking his head on the pavement. Sister Zollers, who happened to be at the back door at the time, saw her husband fall and was the first one to reach him. He lived only thirteen minutes after the accident.

Brother Zollers had some remarkable experiences. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1841, secured a good education mainly by his own efforts, enlisted in the army at the age of 20 and two years later entered upon a whaling expedition that kept him on the ocean three years. He doubled Cape Horn twice, crossed the equator six times, and entered the Arctic Ocean twice. Those who have read his charming book, "Thrilling Incidents on Sea and Land," know something about his remarkable experiences on the great deep.

After returning from his whaling expedition he lived for a while in Pennsylvania, where he united with the Brethren Church, and in 1867 settled in the Hickory Grove congregation, Carroll County, Illinois. Here he was called to the ministry two years later, and entered upon his work with a zeal and ability that made of him a most interesting spiritual preacher. By occupation he was a plasterer, following his trade during the summer, and giving special attention to evangelistic



work during the winter months. He was a poet of no mean ability, and for more than thirty years favored our readers and those of other journals with many of his excellent compositions. The last one he sent was already in type at the time of his death and seems to be admirably suited to his departure from the scenes of earth to those of the unseen world.



**Elder George Zollers**

About 1900 Brother Zollers left Northern Illinois and located at South Bend, Indiana, where he resided at the time of his death. The last years of his life he had laid aside his trowel and gave his time to the work of the ministry, proving to be a most successful minister. He was the author of two interesting books, one entitled, "Thrilling Incidents on Sea and Land," and the other, "Poetic Musings on Sea and Land." He was one of the most lovable and spiritual preachers we had among us. He dearly loved his Savior, the church, and every good work in which the church was engaged. No man among us was more concerned about the mission cause. He was known as a close friend of Brother Christian Hope, and always cheered him in his labors on the mission field. As a conversationalist, his varied experiences and ready wit made him a most interesting companion. He will long be remembered the Brotherhood over as a devout, faithful and cheerful minister of the Gospel. Few men among us were more dearly loved by his friends, and for everybody, both young and old, he always had a warm greeting.







## CHAPTER IX

### WHO'S WHO—BIOGRAPHICAL PEN SKETCHES

**AHNER, JACOB**, b. Huntington Co., Ind., 11-14-1857; m. Mary Catherine Allen, d. 9-21-1933; m. Clara Beverly, 9-25-1934, d. 10-1936; m. Sarah Kelly, 1943; min. 1888; established Ch. in Ft. Wayne, 1895; free min. here for 25 yrs.; pastor at Logansport and Flat Rock chs. in Ind. and at Bryan, O. d. 4-1-1945.

**ALLDREDGE, JOHN S.**, b. Delaware Co., Ind., 2-15-1865; s. John and Susannah (Baxla) Alldredge; m. Leathy L. Wellington, 4-9-1890; ch. Linna I. and J. Cromer; Muncie H. S., Muncie Teachers' College, Indiana State Commercial College; Attorney 1888-; Postal Service 1897-1912, Insurance 1915-; Free ministry 1892—Anderson, Fountain, Indianapolis, Noblesville, Maple Grove, Middletown, New Hope, Summitville; Delegate many times to Annual Meeting; So. Ind. Mission Bd. pres. 6 yrs.; So. Ind. Aged Persons' Home 1934-; 12 years in State Legislature in Madison Co., interested in Prohibition and Women Suffrage; home 1225 Home Ave., Anderson, Indiana. d. 1950.

**ANGENY, EDWARD T.**, b. Philadelphia Co., Pa., 8-6-1914; s. William G. and Catherine (Krupp) Angeny; m. Helen F. Buehl 2-26-1938; ch. Carol L. and Phyllis K.; H. S. Philadelphia, Bible Institute of Pa., Missionary Medical Work at Nat. Bible Institute of New York City, B. S. L. at Bethany, Chicago, Ill., A. B. at Juniata College, Huntington, Pa.; Ministry 1938—Woodworth, Ohio, Missionary to China 1940-47, Muncie church, 1947-1951, Lower Miami Church, 1951—R6 Dayton, 7, Ohio.

**ANGLE, WILLIAM L.**, b. Franklin Co., Va.; s. Lee and Elizabeth (Flora) Angle; m. Elizabeth A. Myer 12-25-1904; ch. Sarah, Lara, and Mary (deceased); Grade school Franklin Co., Va.; Farmer in Carroll Co., Ind.; Deacon 1906-1916, Lower Deer Creek, Bachelor Run; Minister, 1916—Lower Deer Creek, Bachelor Run; Eldership 1923.

**ARNOLD, CHARLES M.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1-2-1866; s. of Levi and Susan (Neff) A.; m. Sarah C. Brown, 6-16-1895; ch. Cecelia E. and Levi J.; Normal School, Valparaiso; farmer; min., 1897; e., 1905; min. and e. at Bethany, 1907-1918; e. of New Paris, 1918-38; d. 1938.

**ARNOLD, LEVI**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 9-25-1901; s. of Charles M. and Sarah C. (Brown) A.; m. Katherine C. Bowers, 6-8-1929; ch. Eloine K. and Carol Sue; H. S., Goshen Coll., A. B. Manchester Coll.; A. M. Indiana U. P. S. teacher, 1923-; min. free min., New Paris, 1922-29; Elkhart City, 1930-; res., Elkhart, Ind.

**BAGWELL, E. B.**, b. in Virginia on February 26, 1861. He moved to Ohio when he was seventeen. He married Mary Elizabeth Niswonger in 1884 and was called to the ministry about the same time. He was advanced to the eldership in Ohio some years before he moved to North Manchester in 1920. Brother Bagwell was pastor of the Olivet and the Bremen churches in Ohio. Shortly before moving to Indiana he became a field representative of Manchester College, which position he continued to hold after he moved, till about 1938. He passed away on July 6, 1940, in his eightieth year. He was the father of eleven children. He preached widely in the churches during the period of nearly twenty years of employment by the college.

**BAIRD, GLENN M.**, b. in Guernsey County, Ohio, to Joseph M. and Alice Dugan Baird; bapt. by Ralph Hatton, 1926; m. Agnes Tice; child., Warren W. Baird;



ed., Bethany Biblical Seminary, Drake University, Drake University Bible School, Oberlin Graduate School of Theology; min., 1935, elder, 1941; pastorates at Arcadia, Indiana; Marion, Indiana; Des Moines Valley, Iowa; Morrellville (Johnstown), Pa.; Hartville, Ohio; and Flora, 1951-. Standing Committee (northeastern Ohio), 1950; Moderator of District Meeting (NE Ohio), 1949; Peace Director, N. E. Ohio, and Middle Iowa; Sec'y of Board of Christian Education, Western Pa.

**BALDWIN, JACOB FRANKLIN**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 9-17-1893; s. Oscar and Catherine Jane (Deardorff) Baldwin; m. Cora Alice Miller, 7-5-1914; ch. Arthur, Elmer, Charles, Alice Nadine; B. S. L. Bethany Bible School, B. S. McPherson College, B. D. Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago, Ill.; Farmer, 1900-1910, Fruit rancher, 1910-1916, Fruit Warehouse foreman, 1916-1920, Inspector of perishable commodities for G. N. Railroad, 1920-1925; Minister, 1924-; Eldership 1931-; Evangelistic meetings from Calif. & Wash. to Va., Maple Grove, Ind., Elmdale, Mich., Sterling, Ill., Modesto, Calif., Morrill, Kansas, Lincoln, Nebr., Roann, Ind.; 3 years on Standing Comm., 4 times Dist. moderator, 2 years as Pres. of Sterling-Rock Falls, Ill. Week Day Re. Ed., 7 years as dist. director of Ministerial work, 3 years as Pres. of Lincoln, Nebr., Council of Religious Ed., 3 years Pres. of Trustee Board of People's City Mission of Lincoln, Nebr. Administered by the protestant churches and supported by Community Chest. Home—Roann, Ind.

**BALSBAUGH, WALTER**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 3-12-1877; s. John & Sarah J. (Fisher) Balsbaugh; m. Anna Miller 3-20-1901; ch. Wilma E., Frances Naomi, Ralph H., and Joseph A.; Grade School Mexico; Farmer in Union Township, 1905-; Minister, 1917-, Eldership, 1921-, Mexico; Delegate to Annual & District meetings, participated on various committees; home—R. 1, Macy.

**BANTZ, WILBUR M.**, b. Carrol County, Tenn., 6-23-1900; s. of Cyrus M. and Carrie (Oren) B.; m. Martha I. Blessing, 6-29-1918; ch. Floyd E., and Marcielle Ann; A.B., Manchester College, 1926; B.D., Crozer Theological Seminary, 1932; min., 9-1924; e. 1930; Pastor, Ft. Wayne, Ind., 1925-29; also Richardson Park Ch. Del., 1929-34; Olivet ch., Ohio, 1934-36; Toledo, Ohio, 1936-45; Manager at New Windsor, Md., 1945-46; pastor at Decatur, Ill., since 1946; served twice on Standing Com. Res., Decatur, Ill.

**BARNHART, DAVID L.**, b. 10-11-1876, Franklin Co., Va.; s. John B. and Frances P. (Bowman) Barnhart; m. Cora A. Flora, 12-10-1899; ch. Ethel, Paul, Emert, John Dortha; Common grade school in Va.; Farmer, 1900-; Deacon, 1904, Minister, 1907, Elder, 1908; delegate to Annual Conferences, 15 years on Mission Board, served on various other committees; deceased.

**BARNHART, JEREMIAH**, b. Franklin Co., Va., 9-3-1871; s. John and Frances P. (Bowman) Barnhart; m. Mary E. Flory, 10-1891; ch. Bessie, Zora Clyde, Frank, Everett, and Galen; Common rural school in Franklin Co., Va.; 3 weeks Bible School at Manchester College, No. Manchester, Ind., 3 weeks at Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago, Illinois, attended various institutes; Farmer in Virginia and Ind.; Minister, 1906, Eldership, 1909; Pymont, Rossville, Bachelor Run, Lower Deer Creek, Pittsburg, New Hope, Kokomo, Samson Hill, and Lick Creek; 1913-1923 Served on District Ministerial Missionary Board; home, Pymont.

**BARTON, JAMES**, b. 1825, Jefferson Co., Ohio; Min., 1866, in Cedar Lake Church; Did most of preaching there. D., 1902.

**BEAHM, JAMES H.**, b. Somerset Co., Pa. 1917; s. J. C. and Martha Emma (Shockley) Beahm; m. Marie Bendsen, 6-2-1940; ch. Ronald James and Carol Marie; H. S., Greencastle, Pa., Elizabethtown College, 4 years, Bethany Biblical Seminary, 3 years; Ministry, 1934; pastor at Marion, Ind., Bremen, Ind., Brookville, Ohio, Chicago, Ill.; Eldership, 1945; Standing Committee Delegate, 1947 & 1948 (No. Ind.), Moderator of No. Ind., 1948, Reader of Annual Conference, 1947.



Reader of District Conference, 1945 & 1947 (No. Ind.), District Board of Christian Education, Middle and No. Ind.; home, 3560 N. Congress, Chicago, Ill.

**BERKEBILE, D. G.**, b. Fulton Co., O., 3-6-1880; s. of David and Sarah (Stutzman) B.; m. Effie Kintner, 9-19-1903; ch. Clair, Dale, Mary, Paul, Lois, and Sara Louise; H. S. and 1 yr. at each Manchester Coll. and Bethany Bib. Sem.; teaching for 12 yrs. and farmer; min. 3-1900; e. 3-6-1909; free min. at Swan Creek ch. in O., pastor at Harris Creek ch. 1917-36; Union City and Poplar Grove ch. O., 1936-49; Pastor at West Goshen Ch., Ind., 1949-; St. Comm., 1915, 24, 27, 29, 32, 34, 37, 39; 6 yrs. on Mission Bd., N. W., Ohio; 15 yrs., Mission Bd., so. O., 6 yrs. minis. Bd., So. O., Mod. of Dist. M. a number of times. res., Goshen, Ind.

**BERKEY, FOSTER**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 8-13-1880; s. of Peter and Catherine (Berkey) B.; m. Rosa Leer, 5-23-1901, d.; Lottie Inbody, 10-29-1914; ch. Harold; common Sch.; farmer, teacher, insurance agent; dea., 7-15-1920; min., 7-26-1828; e., 9-27-1932; presiding eld., 1935-41; del. six times to A. M.; Res., Goshen, Ind.

**BOLLMAN, JESSE G.**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 12-20-1875; s. of George and Lucinda (Holderbaum) B.; m. Lulu Ann Snedeker, 3-11-1911; ch. Dorothea, Paul M. and George R.; common sch.; dea., 3-1-1902; min., 6-14-1903; e., 12-9-1910; free min. in Bremen and Elkhart City chs.; del. many times to Dist. and A. M.; res., Elkhart City, Ind.

**BONTRAGER, CLEMENT ELAM**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1-23-1899; s. of Levi M. and Mary Elizabeth (Cripe) B.; m. Lilia Agnes Showalter, 3-22-1925; ch. Virginia Mae and Mark Richard Tyndale; grade sch.; short time at Manchester Coll. and 1 yr. at Bethany Biblical Sem., also some correspondence work; farmer, factory worker and salesman; min., 7-6-1920; e., 4-5-1931; student pastor in W. Va.; pastor 1 yr. at Middlebury and 2 yrs. at North Winona chs.; since 1927 has been pastor and done other church work in Missouri, Idaho and Washington. Res., Kent, Washington.

**BORDEN, GARLAND BAUMAN**, b. Shenandoah Co., Va., 1-26-1916; s. Albert Bauman and Lenna Alice (Ritenour) Borden; m. Marian Irene Fox, 5-8-1941; ch. James Edward, Margaret Ann, Elizabeth Louise; H. S., Detroit, Michigan, A.B., Manchester College; public school teacher; Ministry, 1942-; pastor at Clear Creek, Sugar Creek, Loon Creek; Served as Dean of the Junior Camps at Camp Mack, 1945-1950; home, Huntington, Ind.

**BOWMAN, BENJAMIN FLOYD**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 8-26-1894; s. Daniel E. and Elizabeth S. Hoover Bowman; m. Zola Estel Bowers, 10-7-1914; ch. Bowers Franklin (deceased), Daniel Walter, Donald Gene; one year high school, two winter terms Bible and commercial at Manchester College; Farmer, 26 years for General Motors; at present farming and serving the Antioch Church as pastor.

**BOWMAN, ERNEST**, b. Middlebury, Ind., June 17, 1913; s. of William and Nora Bowman; m. Elsie Miller of Bristol, Nov. 28, 1934; ch. one son, Darell; H. S. Middlebury, A.B. Manchester, B.D. Bethany Biblical Seminary; licensed 1940, ordained 1941; Pastorates—Roann, Ind., Virden, Ill.; Milford, Ind. Address, Milford, Indiana.

**BOWMAN, NOBLE ORLA**, b. Lagrange Co., Ind., 10-9-1899; s. of George C. and Mary Cathrine (Rink) B., m. Ethel Viola Eisenhour, 6-26-1928; ch. Wilbur, Walter, Bernice, Janice, Clair and Ronald; Common sch.; farmer and carpenter; min., 5-31-1927; e., 8-1931; part-time minister and pastor at various times since 1927 at Pleasant Valley, Rock Run, Syracuse, New Paris and Center chs. Ill health has prevented lengthy pastorates. Res., New Paris, Ind.

**BOWMAN, PAUL S.**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 11-15-1916; s. Ora B. and Altha Mae (Bookwalter) Bowman; m. S. Nadine Brown, 6-21-1944; ch. Dale Eugene;



H. S., Madison Twp. and Trotwood, Ohio, Dayton Y.M.C.A. College of Dayton, Ohio, Morris Harvey College of Charleston, W. Va., B.S., at Manchester College, B.D., at Bethany Biblical Seminary at Chicago, Illinois; employed at V. E. Herter & Co., Dayton, O., and Charleston, W. Va., 1935-1942; Director of Radio, Ch. of the Brethren, 1947-1949; Field Representative of Manchester College, 1946-1947 and summers of 1948-1949; Minister, 1942-, Cando, No. Dakota, Pleasant View, Ind.; Delegate to Annual Conference, 1937, 1943, 1946; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**BRALLIER, CHESTER**, b. Kos. Co., Ind., 8-5-1880; s. Henry H. and Cathrine (Baer) Brallier; m. Kittie E. Danner, 11-14-1901; ch. Alvin, Wolford, Violet, Arthur, Ruth, Betty; Pierceton H. S., special Bible course at Manchester College, North Manchester, Ind., 1 year at Bethany Biblical Seminary, Chicago, Ill.; Farming, 1901-1910; In Mission Work (Barron Wise Church), 1911-1912; Farming, 1912-1915; Penna. Railroad signalman, 1915-1921; Foundry man, 1921-30; Farming, 1930-; Minister, 1901-; Eldership, 1905-; Spring Creek, North Winona; Delegate to Annual Conference 5 years; home, R. R., Warsaw.

**BRENEMAN, HOWARD D.**, b. Wayne Co., Ind., 3-1-1900; s. Daniel Breneman and Ida Ella Kendrick; m. Lura L. Hoover, 1-10-1920; ch. Edward Paul, Melvin H., and Roy H.; attended Shaffer Country School. Farmed in Henry and Wayne Counties, 1920-1944; Insurance Salesman, 1944-Sept., 1950; Began pastor work at Buck Creek Church Sept., 1950. Address, Mooreland, Ind.

**BRIDGE, A. R.**, b. October 28, 1861, White Co.; s. George V. and Sophia Rizer Bridge; bapt. at age fifteen; min., November 14, 1885, and elder, November 16, 1913. Lived near Monticello till 1921 when he moved to North Manchester where he died January 30, 1948. Spent sixty-three years in the free ministry, preached many funerals, officiated at many weddings, performed many anointing services. Brother Bridge was married to Elizabeth Brechbiel on March 13, 1883, and to Orpha Butterbaugh, November 6, 1913. There were seven children, six of the first and one of the second marriage.

**BROWNING, VERNARD B.**, b. Ross Co., Ohio, 4-4-1879; s. John W. and Emina (Moomaw) Browning; m. Harriett Ann Hyatt, 5-13-1900; ch. Opal E., Virgil I., Bertha M., Carol E., J. Robert, Paul W., James H.; ed., two years high school and teacher training, correspondence course; home, R. 3, Muncie.

**BRUBAKER, WESLEY**, b. Blair Co., Pa., 6-4-1915; s. of Elinas and Cora (Sell) B.; m. Leah Ruth Ebey, 12-31-1938; ch. Susan, Paul, Sarah, James, Thomas and Rosa; H. S., 2 terms at Manchester Coll. and 2 yrs. at Bethany Bib. Sem.; farmer, machinist and shop worker; min., 1939; pastor of Center ch. 1 yr.; Union ch., 1949-; S. S. teacher; del. to Dist. Meeting, and various minor activities; res., Walkerton, Ind.

**BRUBAKER, WILLIAM**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-5-1876; s. of Jonas and Sarah (Yoder) B.; m. Celesta Loucks, 12-25-1898; ch. Ralph and Treva; common sch.; farmer; dea., 9-25-1909; Min., 11-24-1917; e., 11-14-1924; free min., Elkhart Valley and Baugo ch.; pastor, Maple Grove ch., 1935-1945; res., New Paris, Ind.

**BRUMBAUGH, JOHN C.**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 1-19-1892; s. of John H. and Sophia (Bookmiller) B.; m. Essie M. Baker, 8-29-1914; ch. John, Paul, Dale, James; ed., A.B., Manchester College, B.D., Bethany Biblical Seminary, A.M., Chicago University, A.M., Columbia University; teacher and Principal North Liberty H. S., 1915-1918; Teacher Manchester College, 1919-1920; Director of Research and Assist. Supt. South Bend Schools, 1921-1926; Principal Muessel School, South Bend, Ind., 1927-; elect. Minister, 1911, part time pastor North Liberty and Cerro Gordo, 1915-1919 and Maple Grove Methodist Church, 1924-31. Res., 504 Summers Drive, South Bend 17, Ind.



**BUCKLEY, RAYMOND**, b. August 15, 1925, to Rex R. and Frances Kinder Buckley, in Wayne County; baptized by E. O. Norris, 1944, married to Nancy J. McLearn, Richmond, Indiana, 1944; elected to the ministry, May 16, 1951; experience, farmer, Sunday school Superintendent, and Sunday school Teacher. Children are Robert E., Virginia Lee, and John L. and James G. (twins).

**BURGER, SAMUEL J.**, b. Lagrange Co., Ind., 11-22-1871; s. of Jonas and Susan (Bearinger) B.; m. Nora Belle Slisher, 4-7-1895; ch. Clemon Clifford, James Quinter; 3 yrs. H. S.; farmer; min., 3-17-1900; e., ?; free min. in English Prairie, 21 yrs.; pastor at Blue River and Auburn, Ind., and Battle Creek, Mich.; e. of English Prairie, 9 yrs.; served twice on Standing Comm.; held over 100 evangelistic meetings; officiated at 300 funerals and many weddings; d. 12-4-1930.

**BURNETT, SAMUEL GARFIELD**, b. Floyd Co., Va., 5-16-1882; s. Samuel and Mira (Hylton) Burnett; m. Letha A. Bowman, 9-12-1917; ch. Howard James Burnett, Herman Boyd Burnett, Paul Eugene; 1 year McPherson College, 3 yrs. Bethany Seminary, Chicago, Ill.; Farming, 1908-23; factory work, 1923-47; Ministry, 1908-; Big Creek Church, Ripley, Oklahoma, Anderson Church, 1923-47, Anderson, Ind.; Eldership, 1921; d. Madison, Ind., 9-15-1947.

**BUSSARD, WILLIAM**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 7-29-1849; s. of Elias and Rebecca (Boswell) B.; m. Charlotte Holderman, 8-11-1870; ch. Minnie Alma, Annie B., Franklin Addison, and Daisy Idell; H. S.; taught 2 yrs.; operated canning factory and sorghum mill; sold nursery stock; min. about 1884; e., 1908; free min. in West Goshen, Bethany, Nappanee and New Paris ch.; d. 8-16-1933.

**BURKE, ELDON R.**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 6-14-1898; s. of Albert and Lucy M. (Freed) B.; m. Cecil Davis, 9-16-1924; ch. Alive V. and David E. (deceased); ed., H. S., Ind., Manchester College, A.B., 1922, University of Chicago, M.A., 1926 and Ph.D., 1936; School teacher and Principal, 1917-1924; O.N.U., 1927-1931, Mt. Carroll, Ill., 1932-1937; Ball State Teachers' College, 1937-1943; Research Dir. Breth. Ser. Philadelphia unit, 1943-44. Opened New Windsor Relief Center, 1944; 6 mos. in Paris; 6 mos. in Brussels relief work; Breth. rep. Cralog, 1946-1951; field Sec'y for Western zones and Berlin. Home, near Bremen. (See page 261)

**BURNS, I. S.**, b. Juniata Co., Pa., 2-22, 1859; s. of Henry J. and Sarah Josephine (Kellogg) B.; m. Susan A. Wise, 5-1-1892; ch. Sarah Edith, Lizzie May, Bessie and Beulah Iola; School teacher, pastor, farmer; deacon and minister Yellow Creek, 1891-1914 and 1927-1933; pastor Topeka, 1914-1922, and Camp Creek, 1922-1927; free ministry, Yellow Creek 1927-1933; d. 10-20-1933.

**BYERLY, ROBERT ALLEN**, b. Fostoria, Ohio, 2-27-1915; s. Oscar and Myrtle (Ferrall) Byerly; m. Helen Ruth Bailey, 4-1-36; ch. Kenneth Brandt, Mark Allen, Timothy Ferrall; Attended Miami U., Oxford, Ohio and Findlay College, Findlay, Ohio; A.B., Okla. A. and M.; B.D., Bethany Biblical Seminary; Graduate School of Religion, Butler University; Office work, Fostoria, Findlay, Ohio; Executive Secretary and Week-Day Re. Educ. instructor at Kokomo, Ind.; Howard County Council of Churches, 1946-1949; Ministry, Big Creek Ch. of Brethren, Okla., Kokomo, Indiana; Eldership, 1941; Standing Committee, 1943 and 1947; Dean of Camp Mack Boys' Camp, 1946-1950; Served as Exec. Secy. of Okla. P. of Tex. and N. Mex. Dist., 1942-43; Regional Council from So. Ind. District (2 three-year terms); director religious activities, Elizabethtown College, Pa., 1951-.

**CAMPBELL, ALFRED H.**, b. Clay Co., Ind., 10-7-1891; s. Henry L. and Arminta C. (Boes) Campbell; m. Lulu V. Heaston, 11-30-1922; ch. Henry A., Glen A., Vernon L., David A., Phillip W.; grade school, Saline City, 2 years H. S., Mount Morris, Ill., 1 year H. S., Colo. Springs, Colo.; Farmer; Ministry, 1920-, Antioch Church, Yoder, Colo., Maple Grove Church, Center Point, Ind.; Eldership, 1925. Home, Center Point, Indiana.



**CAMPBELL, GLEN**, b. El Paso Co., Colorado, 10-21-1924; s. Alfred H. and Lula Heaston Campbell; m. Betty Jeanne Brooks (1948); ch. Phillip Glen; A.B., Manchester College; attended Bethany Biblical Seminary and Cornell Univ.; Tutored at Cornell and Bethany; Summer pastorate, Cambridge, Nebr. Headed toward India mission field. Present address: 3435 West Van Buren, Chicago, Ill.

**CANFIELD, G. G.**, b. Republic Co., Kans., 7-4-1885; s. of Adrian M. and Amanda C. (Northrop) C.; m. S. Elizabeth Kinzie, 10-17-1906; ch. Esther, Catherine; ed. Academy and Training School, McPherson, Kan.; farmer, part-time and full-time pastor; Summerfield, Kan., Mt. Carroll, Freeport, and Rockford, Ill., Marion, O., Plymouth, Ind.; Brotherhood Evangelist, 1938-43; pastor Astoria, Ill., 1944-; Del. A. and D. M. mem. St. Comm. Res., Astoria, Ill.

**CARPENTER, CARNIE A.**, b. Jackson Co., Ind., 11-29-1894; s. Alexander and Julia A. Powell Carpenter; m. Bessie A. Baxter; ch. Maurine, Dorothy, Mark, Daniel, Virginia (deceased). Served as pastor in Upper Fall Creek (1928-31), Summitville (1932), Beach Grove (1933). Preached in Anderson (1934-36) and New Hope (1940-43). Now living at Clarksville, Ind.

**CASSEL, MERLIN EMERSON**, b. Miami Co., O., 12-25-1915; s. of Howard Stanley and Mary Elizabeth (Wenger) C.; m. Jane Elizabeth Plunkett, 6-14-1941; ch. Rebecca Jane and Joseph Howard; H. S.; A.B., Manchester Coll.; 2 yrs. Bonebrake; 1 yr. Bethany Bib. Sem., B.D.; farmer, Y.M.C.A. and teacher; Min., 1942; Summer Pastor in Iowa; free min., 1 yr.; Pastor in Ohio, 1 yr.; Pastor at Plymouth ch. since Oct., 1945. Res., Plymouth, Ind.

**CHAPMAN, EVERETT**, b. Whitley Co., Ind., 2-10-1895; s. of William S. and Lucinda (Hively) C.; m. Lois Shively, 12-23-1915; ch. Harry Lee, Mildred Grace and Leah Joy; grade sch.; farmer; dea., 3-29-1919; min., 3-20-1921; lea. and free min. in Blue River, 1915-21; free min. Pleasant Hill, 1921-; del. to Dist. and A. M. several times; res., Churubusco, Ind.

**CLEM, AMSEY ERVIN**, b. Elkhart County, Ind., 4-6-1871; s. of Jacob and Mary E. (Braddock) C.; m. Clara Weybright, 12-13-1902; ch. John J., Charley A., Paul D., David G., Jesse E., Daniel and Dale; grade school and short time at Manchester Coll.; farmer and factory worker; dea., 5-8-1898; min., 5-21-1899; e., 3-7-1908; helped in organization of New Salem and Solomon's Creek chs.; free min. all his life; elder of Syracuse, Pleasant View Chapel, Solomon's Creek and Bethany chs. at various times; del. to A. M. 12 times; d. 3-23-1947.

**COBB, E. M.**, b. Jackson Co., Iowa, 3-27-1867; s. James and Rebecca Ann (Follis) Cobb; m. Lydia Shelper; m. Minnie Ring; ch. Emerson J.; Common school at Jackson Co., Iowa, Franklin Co., Ind., Brookville, Ind., Lebanon, Ohio, No. Manchester, Ind.; Taught school 5 years; min. in Pymont church, 1899-1908; editor of "Inglenook," later went into Brethren Church, died around 1944. Wrote *The Mayville Class Abroad* (trip to the Holy Land).

**COBLENTZ, PERRY E.**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 11-26-1881; s. Samuel and Lucinda (Erbaugh) Coblentz; m. Peache Wolfe, 8-1901; ch. Florence, Ruth, and Mildred; Common school, some work at Manchester College in 1918-19; Farmer; Ministry, 1914; Eldership, 1919; Churches: Santa Fe, Kokomo, Delphi, Marion, Howard; home, R. R. 1, Bunker Hill.

**CLOPPERT, HUGH**, b. Montgomery Co., O., 8-30-1885; s. of Herman and Cora A. (Hubley) C.; m. Maude C. Bowman, 2-24-1907; Altha B. George, 3-20-1934; ch. Florence, Virgie, John Raymond, Lydia and Mildred; H. S. and 2 terms Ohio No. U., Ada, O.; farmer, teacher of P.S. Postal service; min., 1913; e., 1925; e. of Happy Cor. and Trotwood ch. O., 1928-38; pastor and e. of East Dayton, O., Belvedere, Cal. and Cincinnati, O., 1933-1948; pastor of Middlebury ch., Ind., 1948-1950; St. Com., 1939; Dist. Min. Bd., 1933-41; Mod. Dist. Conf., 1941; res., Columbiana, Ohio.



**COOK, DELBERT J.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 2-13-1925; s. Jesse J. and Edith P. (Bowman) Cook; m. Arlene Widick, 6-21-47; ch. Delene Carolyn; Graduate of Manchester College; Public school teacher; Pastor at Auburn, Ind., 1 year.

**CORY, LEE R.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 10-28-1891; s. of Lincoln and Sella C.; m. Clara Neal, 3-1-1916; H. S. and 1 yr. Manchester Coll.; farmer; min., 7-29-1911; e., 1918; e. of Bethel ch., 1918-42 except one yr.; pastor at various time of Bethel, Wakarusa and Syracuse chs; res., Milford, Ind.

**CRIFE, CALVIN**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 7-12-1860; s. of Andrew and Mary Magdalena (Wyland) C.; m. Ida Jane Gordy, 7-1-1883; ch. Bessie, Daisy, Hazel, Bertha, Martha, George, Otis, Walter, Norman and Roy; Common sch.; farmer; dea., 1898; min., 1907; e., 1912; f. min. in Maple Grove and New Paris ch; del. to A. M. several times. d., 4-5-1933.

**CRIFE, CLYDE C.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 9-9-1884; s. of Amos F. and Mary J. (Schrock) C.; m. Elsie L. Bollinger, 2-14-1906; ch. Dorothy R., Mark L., Wayne and Fern E.; grade school, 2 yr. Academic Course, Manchester Coll., 4 yrs. Bible Course, Bethany Bib. Sem.; Farmer and Insurance work; min., 1906; e., 1909; pastor at Auburn, 1918-19, 1929-35; Cedar Lake Ch., 1923-1927; at Pleasant Chapel ch., 1928; in other states: Waddams Grove, Ill., 1 yr., Worden Ch., Wisc., Hicksville, O., 8 yrs. and Payette, Ida., 1 yr., all part-time pastoral service except Waddams Grove, Ill. Res., Chula Vista, Calif.

**CRIFE, DAVID S.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 9-28-1864; s. of Peter and Felista S. (Skyles) C.; m. Anna E. Shirk, 10-1-1899; ch. Edward Paul; common sch. and Manchester Coll.; farmer and poultry raising; dea., 1896; min., 1898; e., 1908; all church service rendered in the St. Joseph Valley ch. except 3 yrs. as pastor of 2nd So. Bend Ch.; served as del. to Dist. and A. M. Res., South Bend, Ind.

**CRIFE, John U.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 6-27-1847; s. of Nicolas and Lydia (Ulery) C.; m. Rebecca Reaker, 4-17-1867; ch. Harvey J., d. 1914, Nicolas M., d. 1936, Chas. C, d. 1948, Clara Bernice; common School; Farmer; Min. and e. free min. all in West Goshen and Union Center Ch.

**CRIFE, MARK**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1909; s. of Clyde C. and Elsie (Bollinger) C.; m. Mavabelle Hawkins; min., 1932; served at So. Whitley; in California in later years.

**CHRISTIAN, JOHN**, b. Ohio, 1857; s. of Daniel and Lydia C.; m. Ada Markley, 8-31-1910; ch. Marshall Daniel who passed away 12-10-1923. Farmer; minister, 1896; free ministry at Clear Creek, Huntington, and Walnut; d. 1-20-1941.

**COPELAND, DENZEL F.**, b. in Tipton County, May 7, 1891, to Frank and Matta J. Copeland; bapt. by Alva Hewitt, 1918; m. Dortha Tinder, 1911; Jo Richey, 1938; ch. Doyle and Lester (first marriage), Marylenn, Duain, and Jimmie (second marriage); ed., public schools; min., 1924; exper. and service, Windfall free ministry, since 1924.

**CROSS, BENJAMIN R.**, b. Laporte Co., Ind., 11-13-1890; s. of Jesse and Nancy M. (Hooper) C.; m. Esther Langman, 3-29-1917, d. 11-25-1947; ch. Donald, Hope, Shirley, Joyce, Richard; 1½ yrs. H. S. and South Bend Business College; Allis Chalmers assembler, Postal Clerk, shipping clerk and Insurance salesman; min., 12-7-1922; e., ?; free min. and 1 yr. pastor at Laporte Ch.; pastor, Center Ch., 7 yrs., Union and Salem joint-pastorate, 1 yr.; Salem, 1947-; musically inclined; res., Laporte, Ind.

**CRUMRINE, GALE D.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 2-23-1928; s. Wilford and Dorothy (Wright) Crumrine; H. S. at Wabash, Ind., A. B. Manchester College, 1950; Ministry, 1945-; Creekville, Ky., summer 1949; Brethren Volunteer Service, Germany; home, 825 W. Hill St., Wabash, Ind.



**CULLER, FARREL A.**, b. Clay Co., Ind., Oct. 22, 1915; s. of Jacob E. and Esther M. (Thomas) Culler; m. Mary L. Martin, Nov. 18, 1918; ch. Harold W., Jerry L., Vera Marie, and Connie Sue. H. S., Indiana State Teachers' College. Grocery clerk, Butter and egg Route, Appliance and Repair clerk, farmer, Allis Chalmers dealer and Ford Sales Manager; min., 9-17-1933. eld., 1-14-51. S. S. Supt., Ch. Clerk and part-time preaching in Maple Grove Ch., Ind. Is also Adult Advisor of Y. P.

**CUSTER, LEONARD**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 11-7-1909; s. Adolphus Custer and Elizabeth (Cook) Custer; m. M. Lucille Rush, 11-7-1930; ch. Jane, Joanne, Joe; H. S., Laketon, Ind.; Farmer; Ministry, 1943-; served Spring Creek church as pastor, -1950; now pastor at West Eel River church; Standing Committee and for 1952 moderator Dist. Conference. Home, R. R., North Manchester.

**DAVIS, THOMAS C.**, b. April 20, 1905, in Tipton County to Theodore and Lillie Stout Davis; bapt. by Alva Hewitt; m. Winnie Andrews, 1925; ch. James, Kathleen, Richard, John, and Nedalyn Sue; ed., high school, Windfall, 2 years; min., 1940, elder, 1949; exper. and service, deacon and minister, Windfall since 1933, employee of Pa. R. R. Company since 1925.

**DEARDORFF, CLETUS O.**, b. Towner Co., N. Dak., 9-7-1905; s. of William A. and Maude May (Miller) D.; m. Myrtle Leona Kessler, 8-4-1928; d., 2-4-1934; m. Esther Olivia Esbensen, 1-1-1936; ch. Edward Leroy, Ardelle Marie, Richard Owen, Robert Allen, Kenneth Eugene and David Paul; A.B., Manchester College, 1943; worked for Sears Roebuck for 11 yrs.; taught sch. at Ladoga, Ind., 3 yrs, at North Liberty, 1 yr., and at Tippecanoe, Ind., since 1946; min., 12-1937; pastor at Astoria, Ill., 1 yr., at Ladoga, Ind., 3 yrs., and at Pine Creek Ch., 1 yr.; res. Bremen, Ind.

**DEARDORFF, LEWIS**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 3-3-1911; s. Edgar and Mollie (Wise) Deardorff; m. Marjorie Teeter 12-14-1936; ch. Donald Lewis, Deanna Louise, Dana Lester, Deloris Lee; H. S. Mooreland, Ind., A.B. Manchester; school teacher; Organization Director in Ind. Farm Bureau; Ministry, 1932-; Eldership, 1937-; Served at Ladoga, Nettle Creek, Pittsburg; Moderator of So. Ind. District Meeting 1945; pastor—B. Run and Lower Deer Creek churches; home, Bringhurst.

**DEATON, GEORGE W.**, b. Kos. Co., 6-2-1884; s. Jacob O. and Mealy (Cauffman) Deaton, m. Edith Leckrone 1-19-1907; ch. Granville, Earl, Lucile, Donald, Georgia May; Farmer; Minister 1914-; Eldership 1919-; Served Eel River, Wabash City, South Whitley, Sugar Creek; home, Claypool, Ind.

**DETRICK, ERNEST**, b. Darke Co., Ohio 4-24-1913; s. John and Clara Miller Detrick; m. Anna Elizabeth Beard, 1938; ch. Ralph, John, Joe; Attended Manchester College and Bethany Seminary; Minister at Fairview Church, Iowa; Bear Creek Church, Ohio; Union Grove Church, Indiana, 1949 to present. Present address: R. 1, Muncie, Ind.

**DICKEY, HOWARD**, b. Marshall Co., Ind. 10-5-1885; s. of John S. and Josephine Dickey; m. Effie Neher 1909; ch. Evadean, Galen, James and John; Normal Training, Manchester College; 1 yr. at Bethany Bib. Sem.; teacher for 30 yrs. in Ind.; min. 1908; e. 1910; pastor, Salem ch. 1916-17; North Liberty, 1918-23; Cart Creek, 1 yr.; Andrews, 5½ yrs.; res. Plymouth, Ind.

**DILLING, HERBERT C.**, b. Carroll Co. Ind., 11-14-1900; s. of Charles Nelson and Anna (Schaeff) D.; m. Lela Endsley, 3-28-1923; ch. Delbert, Kenneth, Max and Marilyn; H. S. and B.S. Manchester Coll., 1948; bookkeeper, 1921-30; school teacher, 1931-; min., 12-1920; e., 11-1947; part-time preaching, 1921-28 in Landess Ch., So. Ind., preaching in absence of pastor in Salimonie ch. in Mid. Ind., 1928-36; same in Ft. Wayne, 1936-; Del. to Dist. Mt.; res., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

**DILLING, ROY**, b. Carroll Co., Ind., 1-1-1882; s. David Dilling and Emma



(Wilson) Dilling; m. Josie Stauffer, 5-26-1909; ch. John Leonard and Mary Alice; H. S., Monticello, attended Manchester, LaVerne, Bethany; Music Teacher in public schools, Bethany, Manchester; Business Teacher at Manchester and W. Palm Beach; Minister, 1909; Eldership, 1915; Conference Music Director; home, West Palm Beach, Florida.

**DILLON, FRANK M.**, b. Cambridge City, Wayne Co., Ind., 2-15-1882; s. William J. and Mary P. (Trusler) Dillon; m. Grace M. Miller; ch. William P., Arza C., Myrtle Inez, Helen Lucile; Common school in Jackson Twp., Wayne Co., Ind.; Farmer; Ministry, 1921; Eldership, 1924; Served Nettle Creek, Upper Fall Creek, Middletown, Pleasant Grove, Bethel Center; home, Hartford City, Ind.

**DODGE, ARTHUR I.**, b. Putnam Co., Ohio, 12-3-1892; s. Leonard C. and Elmina (Binkley) Dodge; m. Elizabeth Gertrude Netzley, 12-24-1916; ch. Mary Genevieve, Arthur Lowell; Common school, Allen Co., Ohio; academic course at Manchester; Farmer; Ministry, 1919; Eldership, 1925; served Union City, Ind., Pleasant Valley, So. Ohio, Oak Grove, Ohio, Plum Creek, Pa., Black River, Ohio, Woodland, Mich., Defiance, Ohio, Arcadia, Ind.; served on Standing Committee, 1940, Ministerial Bd. of Mich., Brethren Service Committee, N. W. O.; home, Arcadia, Ind.

**EARLY, ISAAC**, b. Rocking Co., Va., 3-7-1838; s. of Jacob and Mary (Simmons) E.; m. Mary E. Irvin, 4-18-1861; ch. Sarah, Hattie, Emma, and Charles (all deceased), Ella (Whitmer), Mattie (Knott), William John; school teacher in Ohio, farmer and stock raiser; free ministry at Oak Grove and North Liberty; d. Aug., 1907, St. Joseph Co., Ind.

**EBERLY, JOHN**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 4-30-1904; s. Dan and Emma (Snake) Eberly; m. Ollie Heaston, 12-24-1925; ch. William, Wayne, David; H. S., No. Webster; A.B., Manchester, M.S., Indiana University; School teacher; Minister, 1922; Eldership, 1932; served Mt. Pleasant, New Salem, Markle, Loon Creek. Representative of B.S.C. in Italy and Germany, 1948-49. Director Heifer Programs and German H. S. student project. Home, New Windsor, Md.

**EBERLY, WILLIAM R.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 10-4-1926; s. John H. and Ollie M. Heaston Eberly; m. Eloise Whitehead, 6-30-1946; ch. Diana Sue; A.B., Manchester Col.; Graduate study at Ind. Univ.; Teacher at Laketon and Somerset High Schools; Pastor at Portland, Pleasant View and Roann Churches. Reading Clerk at Middle Indiana Dist. Meeting, 1951; address, Roann, Indiana.

**EBY, KERMIT**, s. of Elmer and Lizzie (Schwalm) E.; b. 9-21-1903, St. Joseph Co., Ind.; m. Retha Fish, 6-6-1927; ch. Kermit Ray, Sylvia Ann, Daniel West; ed., Grade and H. S. Elkhart Co., A.B., Manchester College, Graduate Study Univ. of Chicago, 1929-31; Prin. Clinton Com. School, 1927-29; Teacher Ann Arbor H. S., 1931-37; Exec. Sec. Chicago Teachers' Union, 1937-42; Dir. Ed. and Research C.I.O., 1942-48; Prof. Univ. of Chicago, 1948-; Minister, 1927; preaching Pine Creek (West Goshen), Syracuse, 1927-29; B.Y.P.D. Camps, 1933; written numerous articles for religious and other periodicals; res., 7700 Euclid Ave., Chicago, Ill.

**EIKENBERRY, A. R.**, b. Piatt Co., Ill., 2-16-1889; s. John and Mary (Moss) Eikenberry; m. Elizabeth Wagoner, 5-2-1909; ch. Helen and Wilbur; H. S., LaPlace, Ill.; A.B., Manchester; B.S., Univ. of Ill.; A.M., Ohio State; Univ. of Chicago, Bethany; Farmer, Grade School Teacher, Prof. at Mt. Morris, and Manchester College, 1918-; Minister, 1909-; Eldership, 1912; served Columbia, Ill., Pleasant View and Liberty Mills; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**EIKENBERRY, JOHN A.**, b. July 2, 1835; d. Mar. 25, 1918; m. Anna Carnes; she died 1905; min., 1874; preached at Salamonie; was blind in later years. A devout student of the Bible, he could quote long selections of the Scriptures.

**EISENHOUR, IRA**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 5-20-1872; s. of Martin A. and Sarah (Sherck) E., m. Viola Huff in 1897, who died Feb., 1901; m. Minerva Roose, 4-26-



1903; ch. (first m.) Gladys and Modest, (sec. m.) Ethel and Glenn; Railroad worker and farmer; free ministry Union Center, Pine Creek, Salem, Blissville, Pleasant Valley; d. 10-5-1927.

**ELLIS, O. C.**, b. Randolph County, 1841; in Union Army in Civil War; minister after the war in Antioch Church till 1887, then in Salamonie, where he shared preaching with others.

**EMMERT, HARVEY D.**, b. Altoona, Pa., 9-21-1877; s. of Joseph F. and Anna (Benedict) E.; m. Leila Boerner, 8-7-1912; ch. Denton B., Lois E.; Juniata Coll.; Principal H. S.; pastor of several chs. in east; pastor at Nappanee, 1934-41; min., 1905; e. d. 6-23-1949.

**ESHLEMAN, H. W.**, b. Lancaster Co., Pa., 8-11-1910; s. of N. W. and Susan B. (Wolgemuth) E.; m. Evalyn G. Raffensperger, 1-1-1931; ch. Henry R., Nathan R., David R., Joyce Evalyn, and Philip R.; H. S. and Business grad.; farmer and business; min. and pastor in Eastern Pa., 1939-49; pastor of Second South Bend, Ind., 1949-.

**ESHLEMAN, I. JAMES**, b. Lancaster Co., Pa., 4-9-1922; s. of Isaac H. and Esther (Martin) E.; m. Helen M. Cook, 7-19-1947; Goshen College, Bethany Biblical Training School and Seminary, B.D., 1951; min., 4-3-1942; free min. in Eastern Pa. and asst. pastor in First Breth. Ch. in Goshen, 1946; pastor of North Webster Ch., 1946-1950; formerly a member of Mennonite ch. Pastor Bridgewater, Va., 1951-.

**FIKE, J. H.**, b. 1867, Waterloo, Iowa; m. Fannie Steele; min. 1894; worked in Middlebury and Pleasant Valley Churches; d. 1935.

**FINNELL, VIRGIL CARL**, b. Mongalia Co., W. Va., 10-1-1880; s. Evander and Elizabeth (Hamilton) Finnell; m. Lucinda Alice Pugh, 12-29-1904; ch. Galen, Paul, Forest, Mildred, Ralph, Merlin; grades Pleasant Hill, W. Va.; 2 yr. academy W. Va. Univ.; 2 yrs. Dept. Religion, Drake Univ.; Gr. of Des Moines City Training School in Religion; School teacher, lecturer on tobacco and alcohol, Chairman of Prohibition Com., 1941-47; Nat. Ch., 1950; Bus. Dept. of Breth. Pub. House, 1907-1911; Minister, 1901; Eldership, 1915; Pastor of Ten Mile, Pa., Enders, Nebr.; Conference Daily Editor; Editor of S. S. Bulletin, Washington, Pa.; Editor of Nat. Prohibitionist, 1947-; Member of Bd. of Directors Clean Life League of America; Member of Bd. of Directors of World Purity Federation; home, Winona Lake, Ind.

**FISHER, CHARLES KENNETH**, b. Lawrence Co., Ill., 8-22-1922; s. Charles Ernest and Ruby Irene (Benson) Fisher; m. Ruth Blanche Ducharme, 8-23-1940; ch. Charles Edward, Robert Dean, Donald Lee, Nancy Ann; H. S., Lawrence Twp., Ill.; Farmer; Minister; served Allison Prairie, Lamotte Prairie, Kaskaskia, Buck Creek churches; home, Mooreland, Ind.

**FISHER, E. R.**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 1-18-1896; s. Harry and Carrie Himelick Fisher; m. Cora L. Heestand, 1920; ch. Glen, Evelyn, Esther; A.B., Manchester College; B.D., Bethany Biblical Seminary; Pastor at Broadwater Cong., Mo., Grand Valley Church, Colo.; Hart, Mich.; Four Mile Church, Ind.; Trotwood, Ohio; Huntington, Ind.; address, 314 E. Washington, Huntington, Ind.

**FISHER, HARLEY U.**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 4-24-1894; s. Cornelius and Mary E. (Miller) Fisher; m. Clara Belle Lawmon, 8-5-1908; ch. Margaret, Louise, Genevieve, Isaac, David; Minister, 1914; Eldership, 1918; served Mexico (29 years free ministry), Kewanna, Logansport, Upper Deer Creek; delegate to Annual Conference several times; home, R. 3, Peru, Ind.

**FISHER, HERBERT**, b. Ithaca, New York, 6-23-1922; s. Walter G. and Laura (Johnson) F.; m. Helen Hissong; ch. Susan Carol and Mark Edward; grade school, Florida; High School, Michigan; A.B. Manchester Coll. 1945; B.D. Bethany Biblical Seminary, 1949; Student Pastor, Portland and Ladoga Churches; full-time pas-





**E. R. Fisher**

torate, Bachelor Run and Lower Deer Creek Churches, 1949-1950; Union Center, 1950-.

**FISHER, LEROY**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 9-25-1886; s. of John C. and Catharine (Kilian) F.; m. Bertha Bucher, 2-2-1913; Ada R. Straun, 8-7-1923; ch. Howard Leroy, John Robert and Mary Lou; common sch. and 2 yr. H. S.; Farmer; min., 10-4-1913; e., 10-1920; free min., Turkey Creek Ch., 1913-; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; Trustee of Mexico Welfare Home, 1944-; Mod. of elders' body 1 yr.; res., Milford, Ind.

**FISHER, WALTER G.** b. Mexico, Indiana, 1-6-1890; s. Alan and Jennie (Moss) F.; m. Laura Johnson; ch. Lewis, Hugh and Herbert; grade school; min. 1927, elder, 1949; farmer and carpenter; part-time pastor, Orlando and Lakeland, Florida; Sunfield, Mich.; full-time pastorates: Battle Creek, Mich.; Marion, Ind.; Dupont, Ohio; since 1951 at LaPorte, Ind.

**FLORY, EZRA**, b. Miami Co., Ohio, 1-5-1870; s. of John and Millie (Younce) F.; m. Emma Brumbaugh, 11-23-1893; Martha Brumbaugh, 3-15-1905; ch. Margaret, Miriam, James and Paul; H. S.; Pd.B., Hartford School of Rel. Ped., 1916; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1916; A.M., Manchester Coll., 1918; Th.D., Baptist So. Divinity School, 1928; school teacher, 9 yrs.; worked for the Progress Tel. Co. 6 yrs.; dea., 1900; min., 1901; e., 1910; pastor at Sterling, Ill., 6 yrs.; at Huntington, Ind., 3 yrs.; at Rodney, Mich., 1 yr.; part-time work at New Salem ch. in No. Ind., 1 yr.; teacher at Bethany Sem., 8 yrs.; Gen. S. S. Sec., 8 yrs.; member of Dist. Mission Bd., No. Ill., 11 yrs.; did much preaching after retiring at New Paris, Ind. While Gen. S. S. Sec. he traveled 192,368 miles by rail; spoke 2,764 times in 28 states and Canada and contributed over 700,000 words for publication. d., 2-15-1940.

**FLORY, JOHN S.**, b. Iowa Co., Iowa, 12-4-1873; s. of A. M. and Susan C. (Miller) F.; m. E. Alice Garber, 11-8-1899; ch. Harold G., Ralph M., Lester D., Marjorie L., Eunice M., Ronald L.; academy and business, Mt. Morris Coll., 1899; Bethany Seminary, 1917-21; bus. office Breth. Pub. House, 1899-1908; grocer and farmer, Twin Falls, Ida., 1908-17; Dea., 1902; min. 4-1914; e., 10-1920; pastor in Ill.



and Minn., 1919-39; pastor, Cedar Creek ch., 1939-44; eld., Cedar Creek, 1939-; e., Auburn and Cedar Lake for several years; St. Comm. once; res., Garrett, Ind.

**FORNEY, J. CLYDE**, b. Dickinson Co., Kan., 10-29-1891; s. of Benjamin and Maggie (Patton) F.; m. Ruth Brubaker, 6-8-1920; ch. Merrill Eugene, Barbara Ruth, John Edwin; ed., grades in Kan.; academy and college, McPherson, Kan.; Bethany Biblical Seminary, Yale Divinity School; Dist. Sec., pastor, college evangelist, 1915-1923; pastor Lanark, Ill., 1923-25, First South Bend, Ind., 1925-34, Elgin, Ill., 1934-42, Roanoke, Va., 1942-49, Beaver Creek, O., 1949-; member St. Comm.; res., Box 308a, R.F.D. 8, Dayton 3, Ohio.

**FRANTZ, IRA H.**, b. Wilson Co., Kan., 1-1-1888; s. Jacob R. and Mary (Murphy) Frantz; m. Hattie W. Sellers, 6-18-1910; m. Alta I. Williams, 12-24-1936; ch. Jacob Royal, Robert Ira, Galen Hugh, Ruby June, Alan Williams, Marilyn Sue;



**Ira H. Frantz and Family**

A.B., Mount Morris, Bethany; Farmer, Teacher, Newspaper publisher, School Test Publisher, at No. Manchester, Ind.; Minister, 1906; Eldership, 1915; served Richland Center (Kans.), Laramie (So. Ohio), Fruita (Colo.); Standing Committee, 1935; contributor to Brethren Teachers' Monthly, 1933-1948; home, 1204 N. Sycamore St., North Manchester, Ind.

**FRANTZ, JOHN F.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 7-7-1870; s. Jacob and Leah (Brubaker) Frantz; m. Maggie Pulley, 8-15-1891; ch. Mary Leah, Ruth Mae, Elsie Aalier; Grade School in Waltz Township; Farmer; Minister, 1898; Elder, 1910; served in free ministry from 1898 to 1946; served Wabash Country Church and Cart Creek Church.

**FRANTZ, KENNETH SIDNEY**, b. Gage Co., Nebr., 1-1-1923; s. Oscar C. and Flora Mae (Gish) Frantz; m. Miriam E. Horning, 8-26-45; H. S., No. Manchester,



A.B., Manchester, B.D., Bethany; Minister, 1946; served Lititz, Pa.; summer pastor, W. Charleston, Ohio; home, 112 S. First St., Tipp City, Ohio.

**FREDERICK, JOHN D.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 7-20-1881; s. of Jonas and Lydia A. (Anglemyer) F.; m. Maud M. Moyer, 12-24-1903; ch. Mabel, Helen, Donald and Carlyle; H. S. and 1 yr. Manchester Coll.; Farmer; min., 1904; e., 1912; free min., Yellow Creek Ch., 5 yrs., Union Center, 42 yrs.; elder of various churches; trustee Man. Coll., 3 yrs.; Min. Bd., 3 yrs.; St. Com., 1946; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; res., Nappanee, Ind.

**FRY, IVAN LOWELL**, b. Summit Co., Ohio, 7-22-1924; s. of Elson Myers and Bessie Mae (Hershberger) F.; m. Dorothy Louise Winger, 5-30-1947; A.B., Manchester Coll. and Bethany Bib. Sem., B.D., 1951; teacher pub. sch., 2 yrs.; min., 6-1943; summer pastor, Franklin Grove, Ill., 1947; week-end and summer pastor, Hickory Grove ch., 1947-48; pastor at Pleasant Chapel ch., Ind., 1949; pastor 1st South Bend, 1950-1951; pastor Toledo, O.; address, 1115 Woodville.

**FRY, RALPH L.**, b. Olge Co., Ill., 3-8-1918; s. of Lee A. and Mary N. (Butterbaugh) F.; m. Pauline G. Delauter, 9-24-1939; ch. Alice E., and Norman L.; H. S., Mt. Morris; A.B., Manchester Coll., 1935; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1943; U. of Mich. ext. course, 1947; teacher; min., 4-9-1939; pastor, Rockford and LaMotte Prairie ch., Ill., Olivet O. and Shepherd, Mich., Cedar Lake ch., Ind., 1947-1951; Dist. Director of Intermediate Work, 1948-; Summer Camps in Mich. and Camp Mack.

**FRYMAN, ROBERT PAUL**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-12-1928; s. of Maurice and Edith Ethel (Cripe) F.; m. Waneta Nunemaker, 10-22-1949; three terms at Goshen Coll.; clerk, m. (Licensed) 1947, Free Min.

**GEORGE, THOMAS E.**, b. near Martin, W. Va., 2-28-1875; baptized by Jacob Frantz 7-23-1893; m. Fannie E. Ritruck, 5-20-1896; five children; min. 3-5-1896; e. 10-24-1903 by A. C. Daggart and I. L. Larue; served as Dist. Miss. evangelist three years, in Kans. and Colo.; served on St. Com. five times; mod. of Dist. Meeting, eight times; pastor at Burr Oak ch., Kans.; also at First, South Bend ch.; Walnut St. Church in North Manchester, and at Goshen City Ch. since 1921. Res. Goshen, Ind.

**GERDES, E. WAYNE**, b. Whiteside Co., Ill., 8-2-1892; s. of David and Ella (Bechtel) G.; m. Viola Eisenbise, 9-16-1922; Mt. Morris ac. & 2 yr. Coll.; 2 yr. Bethany Sem.; Mission worker and pastor in Ill.; pastor, Pine Creek, 1947-; Min. 11-1916; e. 9-1932; St. com. 1943; Res. North Liberty, Ind.

**GEYER, MILO H.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind.; 1-4-1872; s. of Hiram and Cathrine (Weybright) G.; m. Pearl Fuller, 8-27-1896; ch. Thorold Lilian and Dorothy Frances; studied H. S. subjects and took course in architecture in International Correspondence School; carpenter until 1911 and farmer since; dea. 12-13-1909; min. 6-11-1911; e. 12-13-1919; free Min. in Bethany ch.; eld. of Bethany some years; res. Milford, Ind.

**GIBBLE, PIUS**, b. Fulton Co., Ill., 5-17-1915; s. Harvey M. and Ida Rohrbaugh Gible; m. Lois Royer 6-12-1948; ch. Paul Edwin; attended Manchester College, Miami Univ., and Earlham College; farmer, carpenter, mail carrier; pastor at Alvordton, Ohio, 1946-1950; pastor at Liberty, Ind., 1950-; address: Liberty, Ind.

**GIBSON, WALTER W.**, b. Noble Co., Ind., 3-23-?; s. of Isaac and Eva (Domer) G.; m. Phoebe Miller, 1902; free min. Portage, Wawaka, Rock Run and Brighton; e. Stanley, Wisc.; res. Bristol, Ind.

**GILBERT, ELMER H.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 10-14-1881; s. Israel and Mary (Horning) G.; m. Ina A. McFarland 7-26-1905; ch. Ethel Margaret, Edith Madeline, Mary Louise, Dorothea Elizabeth, Arthur Raymond, Virginia Mae, John Edward, Beulah Josephine; minister 1904; eldership 1906; served the Ogans Creek, Hunt-



ington Country, Clear Creek, West Manchester, West Eel River, Whitley, Liberty Mills churches; delegate to Annual Conference and District Conference many times; served on Missions and Ministerial Bd. of Middle Ind.; d. 1950.

**GILMER, ROY J.**, b. Union Co., Ind., 11-17-1911; s. Samuel A. and Ida M. (Snyder) Gilmer; m. Wanda M. Wilkin, 6-29-35; ch. Larry L. and Susanne; H. S., So. Whitley, Ind.; A.B., Manchester; Extension Work, Indiana University Center; Corres. course from Bethany; Life Insurance Agent; Minister, 1935; Eldership, 1944; served Pleasant View, Loon Creek, Clear Creek churches; home, 1327 Byron Street, Huntington, Indiana.

**GNAGY, EUGENE E.**, b. Benton Co., Iowa, 8-13-1920; s. of Dillon C. and Mae (Replogle) G.; m. Virginia Faye Howe, 3-29-1942; ch. Sandra Kaye, LaDonna and Janet Lynn; A.B., Laverne Coll.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; Prin. of Schools; pastor in western states, 1940-44; Idaville, Ind. and Lafayette, Ind., 1945-1948; Ft. Wayne, 1948-1951; min.; 6-26-42; e., 1950.

**GORDEN, ISRAEL C.**, b. in Indiana; s. of William and Minnie (Sinton) Gorden; m. Edwina Nickler, Middlebury, Ind.; ch. John, Bruce, Robert, Berneita and William; Grad. from H. S. at No. Judson and attended Business College at Laporte. Was bookkeeper, foreman of Allis Chalmers at Laporte and Blocksoms at Mich. City; also managed 640 a. farm at Rolling Prairie, Ind.; worked as field man for Man. Coll. and now employed at Gohn Tailor Shop. S. S. Supt. and Clerk at Mich. City, 1932-44; Dea., 1930; Min., 1950 at Middlebury; Del. at Dist. Conf. in 1950.

**GORDEN, WILLIAM I.**, b. in Laporte Co., Ind., July 24, 1929; s. of Israel C. and Edwina (Nickler) Gorden; H. S. at Mich. City and Rolling Prairie, Ind.; B.A. from Manchester Coll.; 1 yr. Bethany Biblical Sem.; did field work for C.B.Y.F. in No. Ind. and also in region. Min., 1946; summer and asso. pastor at Ft. Wayne in 1949; pastor at North Webster since 1951.

**GORDON, J. H.**, b. Wayne Co., Ind., 11-4-1861; s. of Levi and Frances (Moss) G.; m. Susan A. Hoover, 12-4-1880; ch. Perry A., Lizzie P., Nannie, Charles E., and Ray W.; farmer; dea., 8-17-1895; min., 10-27-1899; e., 11-1-1903; pastor and elder of several churches in western states; free min. at New Paris; served on St. Comm. several times, also as del; d. at New Paris, 10-30-1930.

**GOSS, CHARLES E.**, b. 8-14-1899, in Marshall Co., Ind.; s. of Melvin and Huldah Elizabeth (Crone) G.; m. 8-21-1918; ch. Fern, Virginia, Charles Jr., Willard, Naomi, Pearl and Melvin; common sch. and H. S.; farmer; min., 12-19-1941; pastor at So. Union House, Union Center Ch.; res., Nappanee, Ind.

**GRATER, J. W.**, b. Montgomery Co., Pa., 6-10-1872; s. of Abraham L. and Hannah (Spare) G.; m. Elizabeth Zollers, 2-28-1895; ch. J. Allen; ed., Mt. Morris College; farmer, teamster, bank clerk, bookkeeper; assist. pastor Coventry Ch., Pa.; free mins. Sec. South Bend, Ind.; pastor Decatur, Ill.; supply pastor Buchanan, Mich.; del. A. and D. M.; mem. St. Comm. 5 times; writing clerk D. M.; res., Mexico, Ind.

**GREENAWALT, WILLIAM HENRY**, b. Dayton, O., 11-19-1865; s. of Adam P. and Mary Ann (Miller) G.; m. Margaret J. Sinnard, 1886; ch. Fred, Grace, Mary, Amy, William and Morris; grades and 1 yr. at Mt. Morris; farmer, salesman, freight house clerk, etc.; min., 1891; free min. at Topeka and Milford, Ind., 1903-8; partial support at Sterling, Colo. and Stanley, Wisc., 1908-13; Goshen, Ind., 1913-21; Tacoma, Wash., 1921-39; del. to Conference several times; d., 1939.

**HAHN, GEORGE W.**, b. Noble Co., Ind., 9-3-1872; s. Valentine and Almeda (Swank) Hahn; m. Bertha E. Barnhart, 11-4-1894; ch. Naomi Ruth, George Oscar, Floyd Christian; farmer, carpenter; ministry, 1907, Indianapolis; elder, 1915, same place; left Indianapolis, 1936; home, Brookfield, Mo.





**Paul Halladay**

**HALLADAY, PAUL**, b. Darke Co., Ohio, 8-27-1901; s. J. R. and Maggie (Baker) Halladay; m. Sara Heebner, 8-22-1926; ch. Ruth Mary, Karleton; H. S., Greenville, Ohio; A.B., Manchester College; B.Mus., M.Mus., American Conservatory of Music; Prof. Bethany; Manchester, 1928; Minister, 1919; music work in churches in the college region; National Music and Worship Com.; home, No. Manchester, Indiana.

**HAMER, O. STUART**, b. Hooversville, Somerset Ct., Pa., 2-3-1888; s. Thomas and Eliza Blough Hamer; m. Gertrude Sharp, 7-1-1916; ch. Vaughn and John; A.B., Manchester Col.; A.M., Univ. of Chicago; Ph.D., Univ. of Iowa; Supt. of High School, 1916-1928; Prof. at Elizabethtown Col., 1930-31; Prof. at Manchester College, 1931-; author, elder, No. Manchester, 1936; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**HAMILTON, WILLIAM E.**, b. Monongalia Co., W. Va., 7-15-1891; s. Francis and Jary Jane (Mays) Hamilton; m. Rose E. Lict, 12-10-1910; farmer, interior and exterior decorator, Physio-Therapist, mason; minister, 1910; eldership, 1936; served Morgantown, W. Va., Fostoria, O., Powells Fort, Va., Browntown, Va., Middletown, Ohio, Delta, Ohio, Auburn, Ind., Arcadia, Ind., Mt. Pleasant, Ind., Sterling, Ill.; delegate to Annual Meetings 12 times; home, Middletown, Ind.

**HARLEY, OWEN L.**, b. Kosciusko, Ind., 5-3-1889; s. of Abraham and Sophia (Swihart) H.; m. Laura F. Senger, 6-12-1916; ch. Martin L., Paul W., Galen L., John R., Effie Miriam, Lois Frances; three yrs. training at Bethany Seminary; farming and preaching at Etna Green, Ind., Amberg, and Beaver, Wis.; full time pastor at Amberg and Stanley, Wis.; res., Beaver, Wis.

**HARSH, NORMAN LUTHER**, b. Preston Co., W. Va., 6-27-1926; s. of Jesse and Effie (Fike) H.; m. Lois Eby, 8-6-1946; ch. Roxanne; A.B., Manchester College; one yr., Bethany Bib. Sem.; pastor, Auburn, 1946-48; Min., 9-1-1943.



**Albert E. Harshbarger**

**HARSHBARGER, ALBERT E.**, b. Montgomery, Ind., 4-15-1905; s. John A. and Lillus (Lidikay) Harshbarger; m. Olive Shambaugh, 8-22-1930; ch. Richard and William; A.B., Manchester, M.S., Purdue; Teacher and Principal; Minister, 1934; Eldership, 1939; served Ladoga, Fairview, White, Lafayette, Hickory Grove, Markle; So. Ind. Mission-Ministerial Bd., Standing Com. at Colorado Springs; Moderator, Dist. Meeting, 1951; Standing Com. at San Jose; home, Bainbridge, Ind.

**HARTMAN, DANIEL B.**, b. Stark Co., O., 11-4-1840; s. of Daniel and Catherine (Shull) H.; m. Susan Ullery, March, 1860; ch. Lavina (deceased), Emma (Crocker), Josephine (Barret), Carrie, Frank, Homer (deceased), George; farmer; free ministry, Oak Grove and North Liberty churches and First South Bend; d., Jan., 1920.

**HART, DAVID M.**, b. Stark Co., O., 1833. Came to Lagrange Co. at age of three weeks. Baptized about 1870; Min., 1878; spent 2 yrs. in Mo.; moved to Noble Co., Ind., in 1890; to Pleasant Hill Ch. in 1900; to Cedar Creek Ch. in 1913; preached many funerals; d., Jan. 25, 1918.

**HARTMAN, KENNETH IRVING**, b. Sutter Co., California, 1-6-1919; s. Peter Sylvanus and Bessie Elizabeth Hartman; m. Grace Keeny, 6-4-1943; ch. Stefan and Dawn; A.B., Ashland College, B.D., Bethany, 1950; Minister, 1942; served at Shiloh Ch. of 2nd Dist. of W. Va., Maple Grove (N. E. Ohio), Lafayette Ch.

**HEETER, NORMAN BRUCE**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 5-2-1855; s. of Ira and Mary (Cook) H.; m. Mary Ann Studebaker, 2-9-1883; ch. Amsey E., Howard M., Ernest W., Loren E., Bertha A., Hattie V., Owen G., and John E.; Normal Sch.; farmer and teacher for 22 yrs.; dea., 4-19-1877; min., 6-19-1885; e., 1919; del. to A. M. several times; served in North Winona, Maple Grove and Rock Run churches in free min.; d., 9-22, 1937.

**HEETER, ROBERT L.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 7-1-1899; s. Gorman B. and Rachel Ann Fanning Heeter; m. Mary A. Hanna, 1920; ch. Daniel, Elizabeth, Philip, Patricia, Joseph; attended Purdue Univ.; automobile mechanic; minister at Ladoga 1950 until now. Present address, R. 2, Ladoga, Ind.

**HERR, CHARLES**, b. Elkhart County, Ind., 4-27-1884; s. of Benjamin and Caroline (Smeltzer) H.; m. Chloe Tschupp, 11-11-1911; ch. Charles Emmert and



Miriam Lenore; common school; farmer; min., 8-25-1925; free min. in Yellow Creek ch., 15 yrs.; del. to A. M.; res., Goshen, Ind.

**HESS, AARON I.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-9-1860; s. of Moses Newton and Mary Ann (Beckner) H.; m. Anna Lettie Bussard, 9-30-1899; ch. Miriam Juanita; grade sch., 1 yr. at Beth. Bib. Sem., several terms at Manchester Coll.; farmer; min., 10-1893; free min. at West Goshen ch. and filled appointments frequently; del. to Dist. and Annual Meetings many times; S. S. Supt. and teacher in S. S.; d., 11-14-1946.

**HESS, WILLIAM**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-8-1860; s. of Daniel and Esther (Miller) H.; m. Mary Weber, 9-18-1879; Emma Miller, 12-4-1888; ch. Leonard Daniel, Zura and Dale L.; Manchester Coll. and Bethany Biblical Sem.; farmer; min., 10-1893; e., 1896; free min. in West Goshen Ch. and in all the mission points in No. Ind.; d., 5-14-1940.

**HEWITT, ALVA L.**, b. in Tipton County, September 9, 1885, to Marion and Lucinda Willey Hewitt; bapt. by J. F. Spitzer, 1911; m. Margrette Richey; ch. Eldon, Lowell, Mary, Keith and Shirley; ed., public schools; min., 1912; elder, 1934; minister at Windfall, Kokomo, and New Hope churches.

**HIRT, BENJAMIN D.**, b. Franklin Co., Va., 1-10-1887; s. Henry Wise and Julis Ann (Naff) Hirt; m. Lottee A. Oberlin, 9-20-1911; ch. Paul David, Joe Oberlin, Olive Ruth, Lois Marjorie, Mary Elizabeth; attended special course at Bethany, Manchester, and Univ. of Cin., Ohio; farmer; minister, 1912; eldership, 1919; served Kewanna, Portland, Loon Creek, Burnettsville, Beaver Creek, Middlebury, Cincinnati, Ohio churches; member of Joint Bds. of Middle Ind., 1918-1928; member of Anti-saloon League; home, Monticello, Ind.

**HODGDEN, DORSEY**, b. Union Co., Ohio, 11-26-1855; s. Sidney and Catherine (Davy) Hodgden; m. Martha Ann Neff, 11-5-1878; ch. David E., Mary I., Mertie M., Alpha, Grace; farmer, real estate; minister, 1874; eldership, 1882; served Roann, Clear Creek; served twice on Standing Committee; d., Dayton, Ohio, 8-30-1939.

**HOFFMAN, JOHN**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 12-24-1854; s. of Aaron and Elizabeth (Wertz) H.; m. Annie E. Sellers, 10-5-1879, who died 1-28-1889; m. Alta May McGrew, 8-16-1890; ch. Laura Ellen, Omer Henry, Clarence Albert; farmer and store-keeper; free ministry in Walnut Church; d., 6-27-1928.

**HOLCOMB, GALEN L.**, b. Allen Co., Ind., 8-13-1931; s. of Clarence E. and Nora (Swihart) H.; H. S., Ft. Wayne; 1 yr. Manchester Coll.; paper carrier and hardware clerk; min., 3-27-1949; C.B.Y.F. Recreational Dir. and Educational Dir., Camp Worker, S. S. Teacher; Deputation Worker in College; home, Ft. Wayne.

**HOLDERREAD, ARNO M.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 1-6-1921; s. Halley E. and Goldie (McCreary) Holderread; m. Arlene Dickerhoof, 8-27-1929; H. S., Mishawaka, A.B., Manchester, B.D., Bethany; minister, 1940; served Cedar Grove, West Manchester, Osceola churches; delegate to Annual Conference in 1949; home, R. R., No. Manchester.

**HOLL, DAVID L.** b. Josephine Co., Oregon, June 7, 1923; to David Henry and Cora Broadwater Holl; bapt. by J. D. Miller, 1936; m. Miriam H. Mason, 1948; ch. David R. and Brent M.; ed., LaVerne College, A.B., 1945, Bethany, B.D., 1948; exper., pastor, Portland, Oregon, 1948-51; Markle and Andrews, since September 1, 1951.

**HOLLENBERG, EDWARD LOWELL**, b. Poona, India, 4-24-1926; s. F. M. and Nora (Reber) Hollenberg; B.A., Manchester; summer pastor at Okeechobee, Fla., 1947; medical student; home,

**HOLLENBERG, FREDERICK MITCHEL**, b. Clay County, 7-8-1893; s. William Frederick and Martha Jane (Mitchel) Hollenberg; m. Nora L. Reber, 6-1-1919; ch.



Marcia Mae, Alfred Eugene, Edward Lowell; B.A., LaVerne, M.A., McPherson, B.D., Bethany; minister, 1914-; Missionary to India, 1920-1927; served Liberty, Ill., Stanley, Wis., Modesto, Cal., Okeechobee, Fla., Salamonie, Ind., Sebring, Fla., Peru, Ind.; home, 15 N. Benton St., Peru, Ind.

**HOLLINGER, KENNETH WANDLE**, b. Darke Co., Ohio, 8-11-1912; s. E. S. and Sarah Elizabeth (Wandle) Hollinger; m. Helen Louise Darley, 1-1-1938; ch. John David, Richard Eugene, James Elvin, Roger William; H. S., Hollansburg, Ohio; A.B., Manchester; B.D., Bethany Seminary; one summer at Univ. Ill.; school teacher; free ministry at Beech Grove (S. Ohio); minister, 1932; elder, 1942; served Prices Creek (S. Ohio), Shepherd, Mich., Champaign, Ill., West Manchester, Olivet (N. E. Ohio); served on Men's Work Com. of So. Ohio to start Kentucky missions; served on County Council work in Ohio and Ind.; home, R. 1, Thornville, O.

**HOLSOPPLE, DONALD G.**, b. in Gujarat Province, India, June 11, 1922, to Quincy A. and Kathryn Royer Holsopple; bapt. by his father, 1931; m. Mary Etta Stinebaugh, 1945; ch. Donna G.; ed., Juniata College, grad., 1948, Bethany, B.D., 1950; pastor, Chippewa Valley, Wisconsin, 1950-51; pastor, Salamonie Church since September 1, 1951; called to ministry in 1947.

**HOOVER, BURL E.**, b. Barry Co., Mich., 3-5-1893; s. of Frank and Josephine (Whitlock) H.; m. Pearl Smith, 8-1917; d., 1918; Candace Rowland, 6-2-1920; ch. Beth, Clair, Doris and David (Clair and Doris, d.); A.B., Manchester Coll., 1926; A.M., U. of Mich., 1936; B.E., Manchester Coll., 2 yr. Bible at Manchester. Teacher in H. S. in Rome City, 1922-26; in Wawaka H. S., 1926-; min., 4-1918; e., 3-19-1929; pastor and elder of Wawaka since 1920; evangelist in Indiana, Ohio and Mich.; res., Wawaka, Ind.

**HOOVER, DAVID**, b. 1867, Dekalb Co., Ind.; m. 1895; preached in Cedar Lake Ch.; e., 1905; ch. Ora; m. Rozelda Haynes, 1890; d., 1917.

**HOOVER, MARTIN M.**, b. Wayne Co., Ind., 10-1881; s. Eli D. and Catherine E. Mahoney Hoover; m. Ethel Mae Winner, 1904; ch. Alta, Paul, Verda Irene, Glen, Nola. Hagerstown H. S. and 2 terms Ind. State Normal; farmer; operated insurance and real estate business; minister at Union Grove, 1910-1916 and Nettle Creek, 1928, to now. Address, Hagerstown, Indiana.

**HOOVER, PERRY R.**, b. Wayne Co., Ind., 7-30-1890; s. of John D. and Elizabeth (Replogle) H.; m. Jessie May Teeter, 6-22-1912; ch. Harold C., Ruth R., Ralph L. and Helen M.; A.B., Manchester, 1923, B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1925; post-graduate work, Cen. State Teachers' Coll., Mich., 1932; teacher various times and places in Ind., Ill., and Mich.; min., 4-19-1913; e., 1915; free min., near Hagerstown; pastor and free min. in Ill. and Mich.; pastor Pine Creek Ch. in Indiana; St. Com., 1942; Mod. D. M.; res., Lansing, Mich.

**HOOVER, RAYMOND ARTHUR**, b. Mansfield, O., 10-19-1921; s. of Jesse B. and Lucy Marie (Darkwood) H.; m. Lura Marie Sherman, 6-16-1945; ch. Larry David and Beth Ann; H. S., Hemphill Diesel School, Chicago, 1940; A.B., Manchester Coll., 1945; 1½ terms at Bethany Bib. Sem.; service station att., mechanic, fireman, farming; min., 1939; free min. at New Paris; pastor at Wakarusa, 1946; and Maple Grove, 1951-; res., Goshen, Ind.

**HOSTETTER, J. EARL**, b. Lancaster Co., Pa., 5-20-1917; s. J. Clarence and Leah A. (Etter) Hostetter; m. Pearl Jean Staley, 6-13-1939; ch. Judith Elaine, Larry Nelson, Gloria Jean; H. S., Cornwall, Pa., B.D., Bethany, 1 yr. at Manchester; farmer, dairy industry; minister, 1943; elder, 1950; served East Petersburg, Pa., Eel River, Indiana; home, Claypool Ind.

**HOUK, PETER**, b. Germany, 5-4-1849; s. George and Margaret Houk; m. Sarah Jane Eikenberry, 1876; m. Anna Myers, 10-7-1926; ch. Jesse, Ada; farmer; minister at Lower Fall Creek and Pipe Creek; d., 6-21-1931.



**HOUSER, ORVILLE, E.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 7-13-1890; s. of Moses and Mary (Gonser) H.; m. Lodema E. Long, 6-8-1914; ch. Virgil H., George E., and Edna May; common sch.; farmer, silo worker and drug store clerk; min. 9-18-1815; e., 10-2-1923; free min. in Pine Creek ch. and in North Liberty ch. since 1919; elder of North Liberty for five yrs.; served on various boards and committees; res., North Liberty, Ind.

**HOWARD, LEWIS**, b. 1873, in Ohio; s. of George Washington and Nancy H.; m. May Hagley, 1915; minister, 1901; free ministry in Berrien later Buchanan Ch.; killed in auto accident, 6-24-1929.

**HUFFMAN, MILO GROVER**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 2-2-1893; s. George Lewis and Frances Culp Huffman; m. Clara Louise Bollman, 1917; ch., Murl Eldon, Doris Virginia, Jean Ann Huffman; elder at Sante Fe and Upper Deer Creek; minister at Pipe Creek, 1931, to present. Address, 392 W. 13th St., Peru, Ind.

**JEHNSEN, ERNEST**, b. Mecasta Co., Mich., 1-14-1920; s. William and Emma Marie (Simcox) Jehnsen; m. Kathryn Elizabeth Brightbill; ch. David Charles, Ernest Richard, John Robert; B.S., Manchester, 1 yr. at Bethany; farmer, fireman, plumber, electrician; minister, 6-23-1939; served Rodney, Mich., Crystal, Mich., Brethren, Mich., Shepherd, Mich., Marion, Ind., Clear Creek, Ind., Ladoga and White churches, Ind., Beaverton, Mich.; home, Beaverton, Mich.

**JOHNSON, JAY J.**, b. Williamson Co., Ill., 6-14-1918; s. Jay Edwin and Lucy May (Perry) Johnson; m. Vera A. Douglas, 7-20-1941; ch. Edwin Douglas, Mary Elizabeth; H. S., Lawrenceville, Ill., A. B., Manchester, B.D., Bethany; minister, 1942; eldership, 1946; served Monticello church 1943-; Standing Committee, 1948; writing clerk, 1950; home, Monticello, Ind.

**JONES, EMERAL**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 5-30-1885; s. of George and Mary (Hughes) J.; m. Maude Cory, 4-17-1907; ch. Emeral, d., Keith, Hoy, Beryl, Wanda, d.; public school; farmer and carpenter; min., 1909; e., 1912; free min., New Salem, 1909-20; pastor, North Winona, 1921-; pastor, No. Webster, 1934-41; elder of New Salem, Topeka, Tippecanoe, Pleasant View Chapel, North Winona at various times; res., Syracuse.

**JOSEPH, CLYDE**, b. Starke Co., Ind., 9-4-1890; s. of William and Rachel (Hawkins) J.; m. Dorothy Opal Bolen, 12-23-1916; ch. David Earl; common sch., one term at Manchester Coll.; farmer and decorator; dea., 10-10-1912; min., 9-28-1916; e., 11-10-1919; pastor at Salem and Blissville ch.; e. at Blissville, Plymouth and Center ch.; res., Murphysboro, Ill. (at present).

**KEIM, ARTHUR C.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 3-7-1915; s. of George and Nona Mae (Cripe) K.; m. Ellen M. Bendsen, 6-25-1939; ch. Ann Marie, Curtis Arthur and Stephen George; H. S.; 2 yr. Bethany Bib. Training Sch.; M.A., Manchester Coll.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; min., 1934; e., 1943; choir member and S. S. teacher during training yrs.; pastor, Plymouth, 1938-45; Union Center, 1945-50; e. of Michigan City, Maple Grove and Salem chs.; St. Com., 1949; Dist. Bd. member, 1944-50; member of Dist. Comm. and various Dist. activities; lives at San Diego, California.

**KENDALL, PAUL**, b. Clinton Co., Ind., 6-28-1907; s. of Edward and Nannie (Hibner) K.; m. Mary Shively, 8-16-1932; ch. Joseph Allan; ed. H. S.; A.B., Manchester College, 1928; M.S., Indiana Univ., 1937; teacher, Elkhart Co.; teacher and principal, Whitley and Tipton Cos.; free ministry, Elkhart Valley; part time pastor, So. Whitley, and Howard, Ind.; res., Sharpsville, Ind.

**KESSLER, JAMES O.**, b. 9-7-1869; s. William and Martha (Flora) K.; m. Julia Morris, 9-4-1892; ch. Hazel, Galen, Raymond, Mabel, Dorothy, Ida Mae and Martha; grade school; farmer and merchant; dea., 1909; min., 1912; e., 1918; Free Min. in Pine Creek, 1912-1932, except few years in N. Dak.; part time as elder; pastor at Salem Ch., 1932-38; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; inactive since, 1938.



**KILLIAN, WILLIAM**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-22-1877; s. of Christian and Elizabeth (Wagner) K.; m. Stella Elnora Roose, 4-3-1901; farmer near Nappanee 3 yrs., in Blissville congregation, 44 yrs.; elected minister, 1912; res., Walkerton, Ind.

**KINSEL, WALDO EVERETT**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 12-11-1917; s. Harry J. and Ella May (Rookstool) Kinsel; m. Shirley Janet Kirkman, 11-7-1944; ch. Alva Dean Kinsel; H. S., Brookville, Ohio; 4 yrs. Agri. Ohio State; B.D., Bethany; Minister, 1949; served Harman, W. Va., Cando, N. D., Zion Hill, N. E. Ohio, Fairview, So. Ind., 1949-; home, R. R. 3, Lafayette, Ind.

**KINSEY, WILLIAM**, b. Bedford Co., Pa., 7-10-1878; s. of Jacob and Kathryn (Hofecker) K.; m. Minnie Howe, 5-31-1910; Essie Stoner, 4-21-1947; B.E. and A.B., Juniata Coll.; grad. work in Penn. State and Johns Hopkins U.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; P.S. and College teaching; pastor, Elkhart City Ch., 1927-1932; also several chs. in east; min., 7-30-1908; e., 9-6-1917; S.C., 1945; del. many times, also served on Dist. Bds. and elder of churches; voluminous writer, both Biblical subjects and poems; chalk talk artist; res., Greencastle, Pa.

**KLEPINGER, DAVIS P.**, b. near Dayton, Ohio, 10-20-1861; m. Mary E. Clingenpeel, 1883; ch. Nellie, Jesse, Bertha, Linnie, Sylvia, Percy; farmer in Kansas and Indiana; minister at Pipe Creek, 1892-1927; d., 5-24-1939.

**KNARR, RICHARD HENRY**, b. Pulaski Co., Ind. 9-29-1914; s. Harley Ellis and Hulda Elizabeth (Herrick) Knarr; m. Irene Evelyn Kintner, 6-1-1941; ch. John Richard, Janet Irene, Eva Marie, Elaine Alice; H. S., Winamac, B.A., Manchester; school teacher; minister, 1948; served Sugar Creek; home, South Whitley, Ind.

**KREIDER, HOWARD JOSEPH**, b. Whitley Co., Ind., 4-17-1900; s. of Landa U. and Emma Blanch (Snell) K.; m. Irene Mary Miller, 5-14-1925; ch. Gwendolyn Mae, Elva Joan and Ronald Lee; H. S. and one yr. Manchester Col.; farm hand, R. R. section, car shops and fireman; farmer; during part time pastoral work was painter, paper hanger, electrical work, carpenter and cabinet worker; min., 6-6-1929; e., 11-4-1932; free min. in Ill.; pastor at New Salem Ch., 1934-49; Liberty Mills, 1949-; twice a member of S. T.; 5 yrs. mem. of Dist. Min. Bd.; evangelist for 15 yrs.; res., Liberty Mills, Ind.

**KREIDER, LANDA U.**, b. Whitley Co., Ind., 9-14-1874; s. of Joseph and Lydia (Myers) K.; m. Emma B. Snell; second m. Emma I. Peterson, 4-19-1914; ch. Orva Ray, Chloia, Howard, Ralph, Glenn, Ida May, Mary L. and Russel L.; grade sch., a Manchester Bible term; min., 12-15-1901; e., 1914; 15 yrs. in free min. in Sugar Creek and Pleasant View Chs. in Mid. Ind.; pastor and eld. in Huntington Country, Clear Creek and Sugar Ridge Chs. in Mid. Ind., 1913-1922; pastor, No. Winona Ch., 1922-25; pastor and eld. in Blue River Ch., 1925-48; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; Dist. S. S. Sec. 1 yr. in Mid. Ind.; res., Columbia City, Ind.

**KUSZMAUL, CLARENCE EUGENE**, b. Williams Co., O., 8-7-1920; s. of William Clarence and Dorothy Dianna (Sampson) K.; H. S. and A.B., Manchester Coll., 1950; stock clerk, ass't mgr.; C.P.S. mental hosp. att., machine operator; min., 9-1-1946; res., Michigan City, Ind.

**LANTIS, PAUL C.**, b. West Alexandria, Ohio, 9-4-1907; s. of Raymond M. and May (Brumbaugh) L.; m. Florence M. Weldy, 5-30-1936; ch. Paul Carson, Jr., Esther May and Martha Joy; H. S., 1926; A.B., Manchester Coll., 1935; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1942; student pastor, Mich. City, 1935-37; pastor, Osceola ch., 1938-40; min., 5-20-1928; e., 10-18-1942; free min., Brookville, Fla.; Pres. Young People in Ga.-Fla.; pastor, Painter Creek, O., 1942-49; pastor, New Salem Ch., No. Ind., 1949-; res., Milford, Ind.

**LANTIS, RAYMOND M.**, b. Preble Co., O., 9-13-1886; s. of Nelson J. and Amanda (Overholser) L.; m. May Ethel Brumbaugh, 2-16-1907; ch. Paul C., Lucile, Ruth, John and Marie; H. S., Teachers' Normal, 1 yr. Bethany; carpenter; min.,



12-30-1911; e., 6-8-1916; free min. at Fruitdale and Oneonta, Ala.; West Dayton and Palestine, O.; pastor at New Salem, 1920-21; free min. at Syracuse, Ind. and Brookville, Fla.; part time pas., W. Eel River, 1942-45; also at Kokomo, 1937; Dist. Min. Bd., Fla. and Ga.; d., 5-10-1947.

**LAPRAD, JOHN A.**, b. Franklin Co., Va., 12-10-1912; s. John Thomas and Nancy (Barnhart) Laprad; m. Ruth Swartz, 2-21-1937; ch. Paul Allen and Richard David; H. S., Rossville; Postal Employee; Minister, 1944; home, Delphi, Ind.

**LEHMAN, WILMER M.**, b. Morgan Co., Missouri, 10-13-1903; s. John D. and Lizzie Mohler Lehman; m. Florence Brammell, 1927; ch. Carol Louise, Betty Jean, Wilmer Eugene, Joy Katherine, James Mark; 1½ yrs., McPherson College, 1 yr., Bethany Seminary; farmer in Kansas and Oklahoma; pastor at Madison, Kans., Crystal, Mich., Bethel Center and Hickory Grove, Ind.; address: 602 North Mulberry, Hartford City, Indiana.

**LEONARD, BRUCE D.**, b. Blackford Co., 3-20-1876; s. John and Maria A. (Dodds) Leonard; m. Ida M. Pilate, 12-25-1900; ch. Helen, Fredrek, Catherin, Charles; H. S., Hartford City, Ind.; meat cutter, factory worker; minister, Hartford City, 1896-1931 and 1933-1946, Pontiac, Mich., 1932-33; retired.

**LERCH, JAMES**, b. Starke Co., Ind., 5-18-1862; s. of Stephen C. and Margaret (Fallis) L.; m. Vilony Finch; ch. Della, Florence, George, Marion, Alvin, Lorence and Estelle; common sch.; farmer; dea.; min., 1899; free min. in Salem Ch.; d., 6-2-1944.

**LONG, DANIEL M.**, s. of Malcolm A. and Amy Louise (Fahrney) Long, was born at Hagerstown, Washington Co., Maryland, April 16, 1923; m. Miriam Aileen Hanawalt of Laverne, Calif., Aug. 22, 1946; two sons, Steven Ross and David Wayne; B.A., Juniata Coll.; B.D., Bethany Biblical Sem.; grad. work at Butler U. Indianapolis; bap. by Murray Wagner, Apr., 1932; min., June, 1942; eld., Mar., 1949; summer pastor at Buchanan, Mich., 1945; also at Paradise, Calif., 1946; pastor at Hagerstown, Md., 1947-49; also District Adult Advisor of Y. P.; editor of Brethren Student Christian Movement, 1946-47; pastor at Indianapolis, Ind., since 1949; chairman of Radio Comm., Washington Co. Council of Churches, Md., 1947-49; sec., Radio Comm., Church Federation of Indianapolis, 1949-51 and newly appointed chairman.

**LONG, FRANCIS ARTHUR**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 8-10-1879; s. of William and Margaret Jane (Nichols) L.; m. Daisy Maurer, 12-1902; Ollie M. Johnson, 9-1921; ch. Glenn, Betty Imogene, Dora Anabel, Grace Arlene, Junior Arthur and Mary Ellen; common sch.; painting and paper hanging and farmer; deac., 1912; min., 1914; e., 1924; free min. in Pine Creek and Blissville ch.; del. to Dist. and A. M. several times; res., Plymouth, Ind.

**LONG, IRA E.**, b. Williams Co., O., 6-29-1875; s. of Jacob T. and Mary Elizabeth (Keiser) L.; m. Della May Landis, 10-5-1898; ch. Leora Lucile, Lois Lilian, Leon Landis, Ruth Irlene, Thelma Evangeline, Gladys Lenore, Maurice Edwin, Kenneth Guy and Eveline Joyce; Normal sch. 1 yr.; grad. Draughon's Bus. Coll., Nashville, Tenn.; farmer, carpenter, teacher; Dea., 1900; min., 5-2-1902; e., 1907; pastor of Fostoria, Lima, Richland, Akron and Owl Creek chs. in Ohio; Andrews, Ind., 1914-1923; White ch., 1923-25; Rock Run ch., 1925-29; Middlebury, 1937-41; Buchanan, Mich., 1941-44; North Liberty ch., 1944-50; St. Com. six times; Dist. Bd. member in N. E. Ohio, N., Mid., and So. Ind.; held more than 85 revivals; res., Milford, Ind.

**LONG, KENNETH GUY**, b. Richland Co., O., 5-26-1913; s. of Ira E. and Della May (Landis) L.; m. Grace E. Gans, 8-17-1940; ch. Alice, Ann, Joe and John; H. S., A.B., Manchester Coll., 1935; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1939; pastor, Grand Rapids, Mich.; Cedar Lake ch., 1941-45; Walnut ch., 1945-49; Union City ch., 1949-; min., 1931; e., 1943; res., Union City, Ind.



**Estel L. McCullough****J. H. Mathis**

**LONGENECKER, SAMUEL W.**, b. Lancaster Co., Pa., 2-22-1916; s. of William S. and Barbara (Wolgemuth) L.; m. Mary A. Moore, 3-15-1925; ch. James Austin and Robert Samuel; B.S. in Ed. Elizabethtown Coll., B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; teacher in elem. grades in Pa.; part-time pastor in Pa., 1941-46; Wakarusa, Ind., part-time pastor, 1947-49; full-time pastor, Nappanee, 1949-; min., 12-13-1941; e., 12-17-1944; del. to Dist. and A. M. several times; Bd. of Ch. Ed. in No. Ind., 1947-; res., Nappanee, Ind.

**LOUCKS, WILLIAM H.**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 3-9-1898; s. of Peter and Malinda (Metzler) L.; m. Fannie Mae Drake, 11-29-1917; ch. William Otis, Thelma Ruth, Mabel Etta and Aletha Anne; common sch. and 1 yr. H. S.; farmer and miller; dea. 10-3-1920; min. 7-16-1925; e. 9-3-1944; free min. Center ch.; part time pastor, N. Dak. and Blissville ch. in Indiana, 1947-. St. Com. 1946; res. Auburn, Indiana.

**McCULLOUGH, ESTEL L.**, b. Wayne Co., Ind., 8-3-1895; s. Joseph P. and Viola N. Bowen McCullough; m. Inez N. Dillon, 1919; ch. Delbert, and Phyllis; pastor at Middletown and Beech Grove, Ind. Present Address: 227 W. St., Pendleton, Ind.

**McFADDEN, W. GLENN**, b. Wayne Co., O., 4-4-1904; s. of Albert H. and Ida M. (Royer) M.; m. Eva N. Burkholder, 7-12-1928; ch. Robert, Wilbur, Ralph; ed., H. S., Ohio, A.B., Manchester College, 1928, B.D., Bethany Biblical Seminary, 1942; College and H. S. Teacher, 11 yrs; part-time pastor, Mansfield, O., 1929-39 and Michigan City, Ind., 1939-42; pastor, Troy, O., 1942-1950, Elgin, Ill., 1950-; mem St. Comm., 1945-46; Mod., So. Ohio Dist., 1947; res., 1418 Peters Rd., Elgin, Ill.

**McGUIRE, GRANT T.**, b. Madison Co., Ind., 2-6-1895; s. of Melville C. and Cora E. (Bedel) M.; m. Lula M. Wolfe, 9-5-1913; ch. Dorothy Vivian; ed., B.Th., Chicago Union College, B.D., Bethany Biblical Seminary; farmer until 1925; part time or full time pastor Roanoke, Canton, Decatur, Ill., Argos, Ind., Pasadena, Calif., 1925-43; ex. sec., Pacific Region, 1943-45; pastor, Rocky Ford, Colo., 1945-48,



Oakland, Calif., 1948-; mem. St. Comm., 1945; res., 1917 Fortieth Ave., Oakland 1, Calif.

**MARKLEY, JOHN M.**, b. in Kan., 9-16-1867; s. of Daniel and Elizabeth (Mishler) M.; m. Rena May Waller, 2-22-1891; ch. Ira, Myrtle, Blanch, Roy, Paul, Lee, and Harve; farmer; free min. and e.; service in Walnut, Blissville, Center ch. in Indiana and also in Okla.; d., 6-6-1945.

**MARTIN, ROBERT EDWARD**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 12-29-1921; s. of Edward F. and Martha M. (Yoder) M.; m. Josephine A. Stickel, 12-25-1941; ch. Larry Edward; H. S. and 2 yr. Bethany Bib. Sem.; farmer, relief worker and custodian of New Paris sch. min., 8-31-1944; summer pastor, Greenmount, Va.; pastor, Maple Grove ch., Ind., 4-1946-51; pastor, Mich., 1951-.

**MATHIS, JEFFERSON H.**, was born September 21, 1897, in Madison County, Iowa, to Jefferson and Amanda Hall Mathis; baptized by William West, 1912; married Cordelia Mae Burton, 1919; children, Andrew Gladden Mathis; education, Mount Morris College, 1928-30; Bethany Biblical Seminary, 1926-27, 1931-32; pastor, Milledgeville, Illinois, 1927-34; District Secretary, Northern Missouri, 1934-38; District Secretary, Northern Iowa, 1938-41; Director of C.P.S. camps, 1941-43; Public Relations Department of Manchester College, 1943-1947; and Executive Secretary, Central Region, 1947-1951; Minister, 1926; Elder, 1929.

**MAUGANS, WILLIS W.**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 8-31-1913; s. William F. and Ina V. Hosman; m. Evelyn J. Mills, 1934; ch. Terrance William, John Conrad, and Stephen Dee; Peru H. S.; farmer in Miami Co.; minister at Pipe Creek, 1945-; address: R. 4, Peru, Ind.

**MILLER, ARTHUR G.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 1-5-1881; s. of Levi and Sarah (Miller) M.; m. Charity Frazer, 8-6-1899; Zadie Myers, 1939; Ruth L. Myers, 1-18-1949; ch. Rosa and Ralph H.; common sch.; farmer, painter and carpenter; dea., 1912; min., 1916; e., 1925; free min., Blissville and Oregon; pastor at Mt. Pleasant, 1928; res., Plymouth, Ind.

**MILLER, CHARLEY C.**, b. Darke Co., Ohio, 8-31-1878; s. Isaac R. and Minervia (Christian) Miller; m. Linnie P. Burger, 12-3-1901; ch. Caroline, Lloyd, Esther, Helen Lois, Isaac and Bertha; farmer; minister, 9-22-1906; served Pleasant Valley, O., Roann, Ind., 1908-; delegate to Dist. and Annual Conferences; home, Roann, Ind.

**MILLER, CLESSIE**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 11-12-1889; s. John and Angeline (Brenaman) Miller; m. Lillian Ditzko; six children and two step-sons; farmer; preacher at Nettle Creek congregation since 1912; address: Straughn, Ind.

**MILLER, DAVID**, b. Elkhart Co., 1-6-1875; s. of Daniel and Susannah (Ganger) M.; m. Elizabeth Bechtel, 5-19-1895; ch. Amanda, Edna and Cathrine; grade school; farmer and carpenter; dea., 11-1913; min., 10-2-1921; e., 12-8-1923; elder of Union Center, 1923-27; 1929-44; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times.

**MILLER, HUGH**, b. Logan Co., Ohio, 3-7-1881; s. Abednego and Mary Elizabeth (Snyder) Miller; m. Arie May Huber, 2-10-1903; ch. Galon Russel, Wilma Elizabeth and Alma Diana; 3 yrs., Bethany; farmer; minister, 1909-; elder, 1919; served Bellefontaine, Oakland, Troy, Ohio; also Clear Creek, Cart Creek, W. Eel River and Bremen, Ind.

**MILLER, J. ANDREW**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 12-28-1873; s. Martin M. and Sarah Catharine (Frantz) Miller; m. Amanda J. Tinkle, 1-1-1895; ch. Mella M., D. Leon, Malvin M.; farmer; free ministry largely; minister, 4-4-1898; elder, 1911; served Laudersville, Union Grove, Kokomo, Muncie, Bethel Center churches; Standing





**J. Andrew Miller**

Com. 4 times Dist. Meeting; delegate 30 times to Annual Meeting; 28 yrs. on So. Ind. Mission Board; home, Muncie, Ind.

**MILLER, JOSEPH**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1874; m. Hallie Bartmess; free min. at Wawaka ch. and Dunkard Brethren; d., 1948.

**MILLER, NOAH H.**, b. Piatt Co., Ill., 4-18-1877; s. of Solomon S. and Mary (Miller) M.; m. Elva D. Mellinger, 1901; ch. Irene, Ralph and Ruth; H. S., Mt. Morris and Manchester Coll. 3 yrs., Bethany Bib. Sem. 3 yrs.; farmer; dea., 1907; min., 1908; e., 1917; free min., 10 yrs.; pastor and evangelist for many years in Ill.; pastor and elder of Mt. Pleasant and Camp Creek Ch. in Ind. since 1935; twice member St. Com.; Dist. Clerk in Ill., 17 yrs.; once mod.; res., Bourbon, Ind.

**MILLER, SAMUEL E.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 8-30-1889; s. of Jonas and Nora Belle (Ganger) M.; m. Edna R. Kirkendorffer, 4-22-1909; ch. Mabel and Floyd; common sch., 2 yrs. H. S., night school in Bible and correspondence courses; farmer, carpenter and mechanic; dea., 7-15-1920; min., 7-17-1928; e., 9-27-1932; S. S. work and minister in West Goshen ch.; pastor and elder in Yellow Creek ch., 1938-43; del. to District and A. M. several times; res., Goshen, Ind.

**MISHLER, JOHN D.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 10-18-1916; s. Roy S. and Myrtle June (Swihart) Mishler; m. Marion Naomi Quelet, 1-1-1941; ch. Delora Ann, Rosalyn Marie; H. S., Roann, A.B., Manchester, attended Bethany; grocery clerk; farmer; Minister, 1946-; West Eel River, Ind., 1946-48; Buffalo, 1948-51; Pleasant Dale, 1951-.

**MISHLER, IVERSON**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 10-17-1886; s. of Solomon and Ella (Whitehead) M.; m. Minnie Bainter, 4-22-1909; ch. Florence and Gerald; B. S. Goshen College; teaching P.S.; 41 yrs. farmer and factory work.; min. 9-1907; all ministerial service in Maple Grove and New Paris Ch.; res. New Paris, Ind.





**John D. Mishler**

**MISHLER, JOHN L.**, b. 1867, Johnstown, Pa.; m. Orpha Ulery; min. 1898; worked in Pleasant Valley and Middlebury Churches; d. 1941.

**MOCK, CLAYTON J.**, b. Chippewa Co. Wisc. 4-19-1907; s. of Noah and Betsy (Mitchel) M.; m. Iness Cripe, 6-18-1929; ch. Gordon; Rural Normal and Eau Claire Teachers' Coll.; farmer, 1931-48; teacher, 1926-; min. 1933; pastor, 1930-35 in Wisc.; Syracuse, Ind., 1948-; res. Syracuse, Ind.

**MOCK, VIRGIL**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 5-9-1894; s. of Francis Marion and Mary Kathrine (Miller) M.; m. Mary Bigler, 9-25-1920; ch. Violet, Velma, Robert and Doris; H. S. Syracuse, 2 yr. Manchester Coll.; Bethany Sem.; Exten. courses at Indiana U., Muncie and Goshen Coll.; farmer, teacher ps. 25 yrs. in Elkhart Co., 10 yrs. in Kosciusko Co.; min., 1914; e., 1937; free min. in Tippecanoe, No. Webster, Middlebury and New Paris churches; del. to Dist. and A. M.; S. S. teacher for 35 yrs.; res. New Paris, Ind.

**MORNINGSTAR, CECIL L.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 10-19-1902; s. of Reuben L. and Mary Annetta (Laird) M.; m. Ruby Early, 6-17-1928; ch. Alta May and Alma Fay, twins; H. S. and 1 yr. Bethany Bib. Sem.; bookkeeper, accountant, and office worker; min., 1923; e., 1938; free min. in Pine Creek and English Prairie churches, part-time pastor in North Liberty and Blissville chs.; res. Howe, Ind.

**MORRIS, ARDEN**, b. DeKalb Co., Ind., 5-3-1928; s. Arthur F. and Alta (Rosella) Harrison; m. Vivian Louise Zook 6-23-1949; attended Manchester Coll.; farmer; licensed to ministry, 1948; working in Liberty Mills church; delegate to District Con. in 1947; res. North Manchester.

**MORRIS, ARTHUR**, b. Miami Co., Ind., 9-24-1899; s. Frank F. and Mary (Metzger) Morris; m. Alta R. Harrison; ch. Leo R., Jennie Irene, J. Arden; A.B. Manchester College; farmer, teacher, principal, superintendent of public schools; minister, 1922-; served Cedar Creek, Liberty Mills; elder, 1928-, Cedar Creek and Liberty Mills; moderator at Dist. Con. of No. Ind.; Middle Ind., Mission-Min. Bd., standing comm.; res. South Whitley, Ind., R 1.

**MORRIS, CHAS. S.**, b. Reno Co., Kansas 8-5-1892; s. Frank and Mary Metzger Morris; m. Miriam I. Fast 8-5-1914; ch. Dwight L. and Mildred L.; A.B. Man-



chester College, A.M. Ohio State Univ., Ph.D. Ohio State Univ.; summer sessions at Bethany Biblical Seminary and Chicago Univ.; Teacher of Science at Blue Ridge College 1913-1914; teacher at Mt. Morris College, 1915-17; teacher at McPherson College 1917-26; teacher at Manchester College 1926-; res. North Manchester, Ind.

**MOURER, JOHN H.**, b. Franklin Co., Pa., 11-26-1858; s. Geo. and Elizabeth (Sites) Mourer; m. Rachel Weinhold, 1-25-1880; ch. Albert A., Mary E., George C., Harry H., Chas. C., Ethel M., Russel J., Grace V., and Raymond E.; farmer; minister 1896-; eldership; asst. elder at Seafeld and Monticello; delegate to dist. meetings numerous times; home, Idaville, Ind.

**MOW, AARON I.**, b. in Elkhart Co., Ind., 1-8-1859; s. of John E. and Elizabeth (Burkett) M.; m. Mary Lunettie Baxter, 12-25-1888; ch. Anetta C., Baxter M., Terry G., and Susie E.; grade sch. and grad. of Indiana State Normal; teacher and farmer; min. 3-1880; ad. 8-6-1894; e. 12-14-1902; free min. and evangelist for 40 yrs; held Bible Inst. in No. Ind.; taught Homiletics at Manchester College for a time; miss. in Ark., 1892-94; d. Polk Co. Fla., 2-4-1925.

**MULLIGAN, FRANK**, b. Defiance, Ohio, 12-16-1896; s. Thomas and Catherine (Weis) Mulligan; m. Mary M. Kintner, 2-17-1918; m. Esther Mock, 9-7-1920; ch. Glenn Franklin, Ivan Emmert, Mary Ruth; A.B. Manchester; M.S. Ed., Ind. Univ.; farmer and carpenter; school teacher; minister, 1926-; served Andrews, Hickory Grove; res., Huntington, Ind.

**MULLIGAN, GLENN FRANKLIN**, b. Defiance, Ohio, 7-7-1921; s. Frank and Esther Mock Mulligan; m. Maxine Heitz, 1942; ch. Kathleen and Steven; B.S. Manchester College; M.S. Indiana Univ.; minister at Andrews 1942-1949, and Cedar Creek, 1949; school teacher, 1943 to present and is now principal at LaOtto, Ind.; Address: R. 1, Garrett, Ind.

**MUSSELMAN, ADDISON P.**, b. Carroll Co., Ill., 6-28-1882; s. Aaron M. and Catherine R. (Prowant) Musselman; m. Alta M. Mowery, 2-16-1910; ch. Claude Albert, Harold Ira; 3 yrs., Bethany; farmer; carpenter; contractor; minister, 1912; eldership, 1914; served Alvo, Nebr., Beatrice, Nebr., Batavia, Ill., Four Mile, Ind., Flora, Ind., Lima, Ohio, Anderson, Ind., Girard, Ill., Lick Creek, O.; home, Bryan, Ohio.

**MYERS, HAROLD R.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 11-16-1914; s. of Abraham and Edna Bell (Wallace) M.; m. Clara Edna Gongwer, 12-31-1938; ch. Larry; H. S.; min., 8-30-1936; pastor, Osceola, and Cedar Creek churches in Ind., also of Poplar Ridge and Circleville Ch. in Ohio; full time evangelist since 1945; res., Elkhart, Ind.

**NEAD, DANIEL P.**, b. Montgomery Co., Ind., 12-3-1852; s. Samuel and Susan Shively Nead; m. Ella Jane Givler, 1899; ch. Asa, Elva, Mary, Fern; teaching course at Lebanon, Ind.; farmer and teacher in Miami Co.; minister at Pipe Creek, 1894-1927.

**NEFF, RALEIGH R.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1-19-1887; s. of Henry M. and Mary Lunettie (Cripe) N.; m. Amanda Deeter, 9-1-1907; ch. Emerson Paul and Mary June; H. S. and Normal work at Manchester College; taught school 2 yrs.; farmer; min., 2-13-1909; e., 12-13-1919; free min. at Bethany ch.; e of Bethany, 5 yrs in all.

**NEHER, DAVID**, b. Allen Co., 1-12-1863; s. Samuel and Rebecca (Nevel) Neher; m. Lucinda Alice Warner, 12-27-1885; ch. Oscar W., Ethel N., George E.; farmer and carpenter; minister, 1894; free ministry at Walnut Level, Ind., Cabool, Mo., Fairview, Mo., Sugar Ridge, Mich., Harlan, Mich.; home, No. Manchester, Ind.

**NEHER, MEDFORD D.**, b. Carroll Co., Ind., 7-25-1892; s. George W. and Priscilla (Cripe) Neher; m. Ada Shank, 9-3-1919; ch. Evelyn, Leonardo, Geneva, Phyllis and Gwenda Lee; B.D., Manchester & Bethany; art Inst. of Chicago; school teacher, Artist; minister, 1914; eldership, 1928; asst. pastor, Eastwood, Akron, 1927-32, De-



fiance City and Country, 1942-1950, Peoria, 1950-; home, 507 Ravine, Peoria, Ill.

**NEHER, OSCAR WARNER**, b. Wells Co., Ind., 6-22-1887; s. David and Lucinda Alice (Warner) Neher; m. Etha Mae Trostle; ch. Dorotha Jean, Lois Leone, Robert Trostle; A.B., Mount Morris College, B.S., Iowa State, M.S., U. of Chicago; carpenter, machinist, teacher, professor and pres. of Mt. Morris, 1924-1932; college professor at Manchester, 1932-; minister, 1-3-1907; elder, 1927; free ministry, Walnut Level, Ind., Cabool, Missouri, So. Waterloo, Ia., Franklin Grove, Ill.; home, North Manchester.

**NEHER, SAMUEL**, b. Clark, Ohio, 1-18-1833; s. John and Anna (Miller) Neher; m. Rebecca Nevel, 1-20-1856; ch. John H., Amos, David, Mary, Jacob, Sarah S., Samuel I., Ida May; carpenter and farmer; minister, 1863; elder, 1877; free ministry, Sugar Creek, O., County Line, Ohio, Walnut Level, Ind., Hickory Grove, Ind., Blue Creek, Ind., Pleasant Dale, Ind.; d., Wells Co., Ind., 4-9-1906.

**NICODEMUS, RUTHERFORD H.**, b. Miami Co., O., 1-1-1877; s. of Harrison and Paulina (Linger) N.; m. Nancy E. Swartzbaugh, 1-1899; Gladys Upton, 1939; ch. Pauline and Clara; B.S.L., Bethany Biblical Sem., 1915, graduate work in Manchester Coll. and Bethany Biblical Sem.; farmer in early life; grocer; min. in mission churches in Ohio; teacher in Bethany, 1911-1920; teacher in Manchester Coll., 1920-25; min., 8-8-1904; e., 6-29-1908; pastor of Bethel Ch.; also, Sidney, O., and Beaverton, Mich.; much evangelistic and Bible Institute work; retired, Jan., 1950; res., Sturgis, Mich.

**NOFFSINGER, PAUL**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 6-3-1911; s. Jesse and Flora Alice (Dils) Noffsinger; m. Mary Mildred Throne, 6-15-1935; ch. Jean Marie, James Paul, Lois Faye; A.B., Manchester, attended Ohio State; farmer, social case worker, school attendance officer, mgr. Farm Bureau, Field Sec. for Manchester College, 1948-; minister, 1932-; served Walnut Grove, O., 1st Mich. City; member of Brethren Service Com. of N. W. Ohio; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**NOFFSINGER, ROSS LAWRENCE**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 10-27-1917; s. Jesse and Flora (Dils) Noffsinger; m. Mary Carolyn Stone, 3-8-1942; ch. Joan Noffsinger and Ted Jesse; B.S., Manchester College, B.D., Bethany Seminary; minister, 1939; eldership, 1946; served Hancock, Minn., Portland, Ind., Des Moines Valley, Iowa, Donnels Creek, Ohio; Moderator of Middle Iowa District Meeting, 1947; Standing Committee from Middle Iowa, 1948; home, R. 2, Springfield, Ohio.

**NORRIS, EDWARD O.**, b. Madison Co., Ind., 4-11-1874; s. Charles H. and Anna Maria (Duffy) Norris; m. Anna M. Richards, 6-17-1894; ch. Marien M., Forbes H., Lorna F., Ernest Kenneth; Bible school at Manchester; farmer; free ministry at Toledo, Ohio, Champaign, Ill., Astoria, Ill., New Hope, Ind., Richmond, Ind.; minister, 1902; eldership, 1906; Standing Com. 8 times; Dist. Mission Bd., 7 yrs.; home, 217 N. W. 4th St., Richmond, Ind.

**NUSBAUM, EARL**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 11-23-1894; s. of Amos and Minnie (Pelsma) N.; m. Eva Cripe, 7-15-1916; ch. Russel and Manford; Moody Bible School; farmer, grocery clerk and Hossick Bakery; min., 1925; e., 1930; free min. Yellow Creek and Baugo churches; pastor at Osceola and Elkhart Valley churches; lay min. at Elkhart City since 1948; del. to both Dist. and A. M.; res., Elkhart, Ind.

**OCKERMAN, DAVID EARL**, b. Howard Co., 9-3-1915; s. Leslie Elwood and Effie Mae (Fisher) Ockerman; m. Alta Fern Taggart, 9-3-1938; ch. Edward Earl, James Ronald, Joseph LeRoy; Gr., Manchester; farmer; minister, 1945; served Pleasant View, Ind.; home, 1209 N. Wayne, No. Manchester, Ind.

**OCKERMAN, LESLIE ELWOOD**, b. Highland Co., Ohio, 1-12-1878; s. David Allen and Laura Belle (David) Ockerman m. Effie May Fisher 12-21-1901; ch. Thelma, Dollie Marie, David Earl; attended special course at Manchester; groceryman, factory worker, farmer; minister, 2-13-1910; eldership, 1915; free ministry at



Kokomo Mission Church; served Kokomo Church, Howard Ch., Upper Deer Creek, and Mexico Church; d., Miami Co., Ind., 6-15-1942.

**OVERHOLSER, WILLIAM E.**, b. Elkhart Co., 2-26-1880; s. of George and Elizabeth (Landis) O.; m. Viola Fisher, 6-30-1901; ch. J. E., Lucile, Evelyn, Maxine; 1 yr. Manchester Coll., some time at Bethany Bib. Sem.; teacher 10 yrs.; min., 1908; e., 1913; pastor since 1912, at No. Winona, New Salem, Lima, O., No. Webster, Dutchtown Breth. and Akron Coop.; res., Warsaw, Ind.

**PAUL, D. W.**, b. in 1862 to Henry and Nancy Snowberger Paul in Huntington County; baptized, 1885; deacon, 1891; minister, 1905; elder, 1912; 3 yrs. in Manchester College; elder of Loon Creek, 1913-1946; died at the Mexico Welfare Home on June 11, 1948.

**PAUL, LEWIS L.**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 9-4-1871; s. Isaac Paul and Barbara (Bechtell) Paul; m. Mittie Swoveland, 12-13-1891; ch. Lucy, Nellie, Blanche, Gladys, Oyvind, Ethel, Wayne, Elsie, Guyneth, Hildreth; farmer; minister, 1918; eldership, 1923; served Lower Deer Creek, Buck Creek, Howard, Upper Deer Creek; d., Henry Co., Ind., 1-8-1940.

**PENCE, OPAL EILEEN**, b. Huntington Co., Ind., 12-14-1924; d. Chester and Jessie Edith (Bolinger) Pence; attended Manchester and Ft. Wayne Bible Inst.; minister, 1948; served Kosauqua, Iowa, Pleasant Mount, Ill., Schellar, Ill.; home, So. Jackson, Auburn. Serving as pastor, 1950-.

**PEPPLE, ELMER**, b. Noble Co., Ind., 7-25-1877; s. of Albert and Analiza (Gump) P.; m. Nellie Ann Bosler, 1905; ch. Arlo, Lloyd, Sarah, Ruth, Russel, Lincoln, Lucile, Glen, Mary, Paul, Catherine, Elma and Marjorie; Tri State Normal and Manchester Coll.; farmer and pub. sch. teacher; min., 1910; e., 1931; free min., in Pleasant Hill, 1910-; eld. of home ch., 1945-; del. to Dist. Conf. several times and to A. M. in 1948; res., LaOtto, Ind.

**PETRY, CARROLL M.**, b. at Pittsburg, Ohio, to Rev. Wilmer A. and Edna Brower Petry, August 20, 1931; bapt. by C. H. Petry (grandfather), 1938; m. Margaret M. James, 1950; ed., second year in Manchester College; min., 1949; pastor, Spring Creek, 1951-

**PETRY, ELDEN, M.**, b. Ward Co., 6-16-1909; s. Chester H. and Roxie Estelle (Jones) Petry; m. Ruth Lillian Beardshaw, 6-21-1935; ch. Charles Eugene and Lynn Rae; 2 yrs., Manchester; minister, 1930; eldership, 1937; served East Nimishillen Ch., Ohio, and Anderson Church; home, 2212 George St., Anderson, Ind.

**PETRY, ELMER S.**, b. Preble Co., Ohio, 11-19-1877; s. Michal M. and Catherine (Stump) Petry; m. Alice M. Jones; ch. C. A. Petry (foster); attended Manchester and Bethany; minister, 1911; eldership, 1925; served Hamilton Church and Burnettsville Ch.; home, Bradford, Ohio, R. 1.

**PETRY, RALPH**, b. in Ward Co., No. Dakota, 4-2-1905; s. of Daniel Shafer and Nora Elizabeth (Yoder) P.; m. Erma Kerr, 10-8-1932; ch. Carol, Glen, Ruth and Ray; B.S., Mt. Morris Coll., B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; min., 11-1925; e., 11-2-1932; pastor and elder of Ellison, Cando-Zion and Surrey churches in No. Dak.; Ex. Sec. of N. Dak. and E. Montana, 1936-46; pastor of Rock Run Ch. in No. Indiana, 1946-; St. Com., 1934, 1935, 1942, 1946, and 1951; res., Goshen, Ind.

**PONTIUS, BERT**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-21-1878; s. of Daniel and Elizabeth (Brower) P.; m. Mae James, 11-14-1895; ch. Melvin, Clarence, Eva and Amy; common sch.; farmer and factory worker; min.; e., 1919; free min., Osceola; d., 6-15-1949.

**PYLES, CLAUDIUS D.**, b. Madison Co., Ind., 3-6-1895; s. P. Y. and Clara E. Dawson Pyles; m. Mary Alice Smith, 1916; ch. Helen, Georgia, Doris, Betty; grade and H. S. at Elwood, Ind.; 6 years theological course; minister at Fairview Methodist, Perkinsville, Albany Circuit, Ingalls, Arcola, Ray, and at present at Upper



Fall Creek Church; present address: Middletown, Ind., R. 2.

**REBER, DANIEL CONRAD**, b. Berks Co., Pa., 2-20-1872; s. Daniel H. and Elizabeth (Smith) R.; m. A. Blanche Kauffman; ch. Ruth, Mabel, Horace, Paul and James; A.B., Juniata College, A.M. Ursinus College, Ph.M., New York University School of Pedagogy and Univ. of Michigan; public school teacher; professor at Juniata College, 1897-1900; prof. at Elizabethtown College, 1902-18; president of Elizabethtown, 1910-18; prof. of classical languages at Manchester College, 1918-42; teacher for 60 years; conductor of magazine agency, 1918 to date; address: North Manchester, Ind.

**RENZ, JAMES E.**, b. Darke Co., Greenville, Ohio, 9-20-1918; s. Fred and Madaline (Hobbs) Renz; m. Lois Ruth Burns, 9-12-1942; ch. Myralee and Linda Lou; A.B., Manchester; attending Bethany now; minister, 1939; elder, 1947; served Wabash, Ind., and Lima, Ohio, as pastor; served County Line and Stony Creek as elder; temperance director at Elgin, 1949-; home, Elgin, Ill.

**REPLOGLE, FRANK G.**, b. 8-19-1889; s. Wm. H. and Elizabeth Metzger Replogle; m. Florence G. Hufford, 8-31-1910; ch. Helen, Ralph, Herbert, Frank, Georgia, William, Robert, Margaret, Morris, June (Herbert and William, deceased); Manchester Academy, A.B., Manchester College; farmer and school teacher; many years of free ministry; retired in 1950 after 35 yrs. of teaching; address: Rossville, Ind.

**RICHEY, ROY S.**, b. May 18, 1905, to John F. and Laura Bogue Richey, near the Windfall church; baptized by Alva Hewitt, 1917; married Olga Meeks; children, Robert E., Roy R., David L., Jerry A., Rita A., Rosemary J., Stephen L., and Stanley E.; ministry, 1941; Sunday School Superintendent, Kokomo, 1939-40; pastor, Howard, 1941-42; pastor, Kokomo, 1943-44; pastor, Logansport, 1947-.

**RIFE, J. D.**, b. Logan Co., Ohio, 10-30-1852; s. Jacob and Elizabeth Detrick Rife; m. Lucinda E. Whiteneck, 1876; ch. Asa (deceased) Goldie (deceased) Ovid (deceased), W. E. Rife, and O. C. Rife; farmer; minister in Miami Co., Ind., until 1907; retired in Roann, where he was active in the Roann Church; d., 3-29-1929.

**RIFE, OBED C.**, b. Grant Co., Ind., 5-5-1880; s. J. D. Rife and Lucinda E. Whiteneck Rife; m. Oma M. Prickett, 6-10-1899 (deceased); m. Mrs. Josephine A. Hardman, 12-2-1937 (deceased); m. Mrs. Pearl Flora; ch. Elsie M.; Somerset school and winter Bible School course at Manchester College; farmer and pastor at Somerset, Marion, Cart Creek, Wabash Country, and Markle Church; address: Warren.

**RISDEN, RAYMOND**, b. Columbiana Co., O., 4-10-1913; s. Edward and Honora (Malone) Riden; m. Ada May Cooper; ch. Margaret Ann, John Raymond, Nelda Jane; Bch. of Sacred Literature, Bethany; R. R. worker, 4 yrs; minister, 1937; elder, 1944; served Bartlesville, Okla., Stanley, Ind., Howe, Ind., York, No. Dakota, Bremen, Ind., Four Mile, Ind.; res., Lenox, Iowa.

**RITCHEY, DOLAR C.**, b. Carroll Co., Ind., 4-6-1899; s. Aaron F. and Christian (Batzel) Ritchey; m. Ella Mae Wenner, 7-28-1940; m. Lois Mary Teagarden, 11-6-1926; ch. Oscar, Arthur, Donald; attended Manchester, Winona Lake, Vincennes U.; farmer; teacher; minister, 1928; eldership, 1933; served Pike Creek, Howard, LaMotte and Allison Prairie Ch. (Ill.), Beech Grove, Ohio; home, Hollansburg, Ohio.

**ROOSE, REUBEN O.**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 2-9-1866; s. of Henry and Catharine (Miller) R.; m. Merle Wilson, 9-4, 1910; ch. Louis, Mary Cathrine, Charles; ed., H. S., Nappanee, Business College, South Bend, Bethany Biblical Seminary; bank clerk; free ministry, Sec. South Bend; pastor, Buchanan, Mich., Naperville, Ill.; d., 2-22-1919, Naperville, Ill.

**ROWE, DEWEY**, b., Lagrange Co., Ind., 5-2-1898; s. of Ellis M. and Vesta A. (Long) R.; m. Gladys C. Cripe, 3-7-1920; ch. Donald, Ray, Mary (Hopkins); farmer,



salesman pastor; free ministry, Center Ch.; assist. pastor, Sec. So. Bend; part-time pastor, Buchanan, Mich., pastor Bryan, O., Seattle, Wash.; del., An. Con.; mem. St. Comm.; res., 9411 Fifth Ave. N. E., Seattle 5, Wash.

**RUFFNER, GEORGE**, b. Stark Co., O., 2-5-1830; m. Nancy Boyer; min., 1876 in Cedar Lake Ch.; did his preaching there; d., 1916.

**RUMMEL, GLENN I.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-23-1904; s. of George L. and Mary Ellen (Skinner) R.; m. Martha A. Burns, 10-25-1931; ch. Merle Clifford and Dale Eugene; H. S., A.B., Manchester Coll., 1927; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1930; farmer; carpenter; pub. sch. teacher and carpenter; lic. min., 1927, inst., 4-20-1930; e., 3-29-1942; summer pastor, No. Manchester and Iowa; pastor in Iowa and No. and Mid. Mo.; No. Winona, 1934-35; Sampson Hill, So. Ind., 1946-47; Florence, Mich., 1947-; St. Comm., 1944 and 1946; Dist. Sec. in Mo.; taught in summer camps and D.V.B.S.; res. Constantine, Mich.

**SANGER, SAMUEL F.**, b. Rockingham Co., Va., 2-4-1849; s. of John and Elizabeth (Flory) S.; m. Rebecca Thomas, 1872, d. 1873; Susan A. Thomas, 1875; Matilda Yoder Beachy, 10-3-1899; ch. Lizzie, Mellie, Lulu, Willie, Vesta; mostly self-educated, little schooling; teacher, druggist, general store mgr., 20 yrs.; owner of fruit farm; operated cannery; manufactured medicines, 27 yrs.; dea., 1873; min., 1876; e., 10-1892; helped start mission in So. Bend (later 2nd So. Bend); free min. and eld. for 8 yrs.; also e. of Nappanee, Pine Creek, Elkhart City and Walnut chs. in No. Ind., and Mt. Pleasant ch. in So. Ind.; mem. of Gen. Mission Bd. 10 yrs.; served on S. C. 4 times; mod. of A. M. twice; reading clerk, once; mod. of Dist. Meet., 5 times in No. Ind., and 5 times in Cal.; mem. of important com. of Dist. and A. M. many times; conducted Bible Inst. and taught in Special Bible terms at different times; d. in Calif., 8-15-1927.

**SCHROCK, HOMER A.**, b. Howard Co., Ind., 11-14-1895; s. of Noah and Rebecca (Eash) S.; m. Bessie M. Kindy, 10-1917; ch. Ethel, Ralph L., Donald, and Robert D.; H. S. and 1 yr. Bethany Bib. Sem.; farmer and carpenter; min., 3-1919; e., 1923; free min., Pleasant Valley, 1919-24; Solomon's Creek, 1924-27; Logansport, 1927-30; Pleasant Valley, free min. and pastor, 1937-50; North Liberty, 1950; res., North Liberty.

**SCHROCK, J. HARVEY**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-16-1874; s. of Christian and Susannah (Hostetter) S.; m. Edith Flora Gephart, 11-4-1897; ch. Marguerite, Viola, Paul, Mark, Naomi, Alice, Mabel, Troy, Rachel, Titus, James, Miriam, and Esther; 2 Bible terms at Manchester Coll.; farmer; min., 8-1896; e. 1900; free min. in Pleasant Valley, Shippshewana, Rock Run, and Middlebury ch.; served on Dist. Mission Bd., 12 yrs., and Dist. Min. Bd., 3 yrs.; St. Comm. in 1931.

**SCHROCK, MARK Y.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 11-16-1904; s. of J. Harvey and Edith (Gephart) S., m. Mabel Frederick, 6-8-1930; ch. Jeanne Elinor, Julian Merle, Grace Diogne, James Gladden, Kalen Rose and Karl Allen; H. S., A.B., Manchester Coll., 1928; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1932; teacher in grade sch., 1 yr.; min., 5-1928; e., 1934; pastor in Mich., Kan., Ill., Idaho, Wash.; also mem. Bd. of Admin.; Dist. B.Y.P.D. advisor; Work Camp director; est. and supervised C.P.S. Camp; since 1944, pastor at No. Liberty and Middlebury; Reg. Peace Consultant, and Exec. Sec. on half time; served twice on St. Com.; res., Goshen, Ind.

**SCHROCK, RALPH**, b. in Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-15-1921; s. of Homer A. and Bessie (Kindy) S.; m. Kathryn Wise, 12-2-1945; ch. Lonna Rae; 2 yrs. Goshen Coll.; 2 yrs. Manchester Coll.; 3 yrs. Bethany Biblical Sem.; min., 1941; summer pastor, Pleasant Valley, 1945; pastor at Flint, Mich.; served as Sectional Chairman of No. Ind. Youth Cabinet, 1942-44; res., Flint, Mich.

**SEBERT, DOROTHA MAE KARNS**, b. Montgomery Co., Ohio, 10-10-1921; d. John Lester and Velma Belle (Brooks) Karns; m. Robert H. Sebert, 6-1-1940;



ch. Stephen, Sharron, Susan, Kathleen, David, Sylvia; H. S., Waterloo; housewife; minister, 1946; associate with husband in ministry; home, R. 4, Logansport.

**SEBERT, ROBERT H.**, b. DeKalb Co., Ind., 5-31-1920; s. George A. and Evelyn (Draper) Sebert; m. Dorothea Mae Karns, 6-1-1940; ch., Stephen, Sharron, Susan, Kathleen, David, Sylvia; factory worker; salesman; minister, 1946; Burnetttsville Church, 1948-51; home, R. 4, Logansport.

**SHERCK, GEORGE S.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Mich., 12-15-1879; s. of Isaac and Eliza (Mummert) S.; m. Bessie E. Schrock, 11-27-1901; ch. Ethel, Dorothy, Myrtle, Eunice and Ruby; common sch. and 1 yr. H. S.; farmer, hardware store, carpenter and tele. lineman; dea., 10-1914; min., 1-1920; pastor, Shipshewana, 1920-29; Florence, Mich., 1929-1948; e., 1-1921; eld. at Shipshewana and Florence, Mich.; res., Goshen, Ind. (retired).

**SHIDELER, DANIEL**, b. 1841 to Elias and Elizabeth Shuck Shideler, in Wayne County; m. Susan Dilling, 1863; ten children; bapt. by Daniel Smith, 1867; min., 1867, elder, 1882; farmer and minister at Loon Creek and Salamonie for many years; d., 1919.

**SHOEMAKER, WARREN W.**, b. Starke Co., O.; s. of Wilbur David and Verna Pearl (Stoner) S.; m. Irene May Minnich, 5-26-1944, d. 1-17-1945; Dorothy Faith Essick, 6-9-1946; ch. Kittie Hope; A.B., Manchester Coll., 1945; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem., 1949; carpenter and ck. at Sears Roebuck; min., 1-3-1942; summer pastor, 1948; pastor at Bremen, 1948-.

**SHOTTS, MICHAEL**, b. in Maryland, 1820; free min. in Pigeon River ch., Ind.; d. in Steuben Co., Ind., 1910.

**SHREVE, RICHARD**, b. Porter Co., Ind., 10-18-1840; s. of Israel and Eliza W. (Hough) S.; m. Thursey Ann Redding, 9-14-1862; ch. Eliza, Robert, Hiram, Elnora, Martha, Susan; sec. m. to Ida Vetter, 9-14-1899; farmer and carpenter; free ministry, Laporte and Buchanan; d., Berrien Co., Mich., 2-21-1921.

**SINK, CLARENCE D.**, b. Howard Co., Ind., 11-4-1914; s. Robert and Nora Mae (Bridge) Sink; m. Margaret Sarah Poister, 7-28-1937; ch. Kathleen Ann, Rose Ann; A.B., McPherson; B.D., Bethany; minister, 1933; elder, 1942; served Iowa River Ch., Lower Deer Creek, Bachelor Run, South Waterloo; Standing Committee, 1945-1947; moderator, Dist. Conf. Mid. Ind., 1947; Board of Christian Ed., 1941-48; home, R. 1, Waterloo, Iowa.

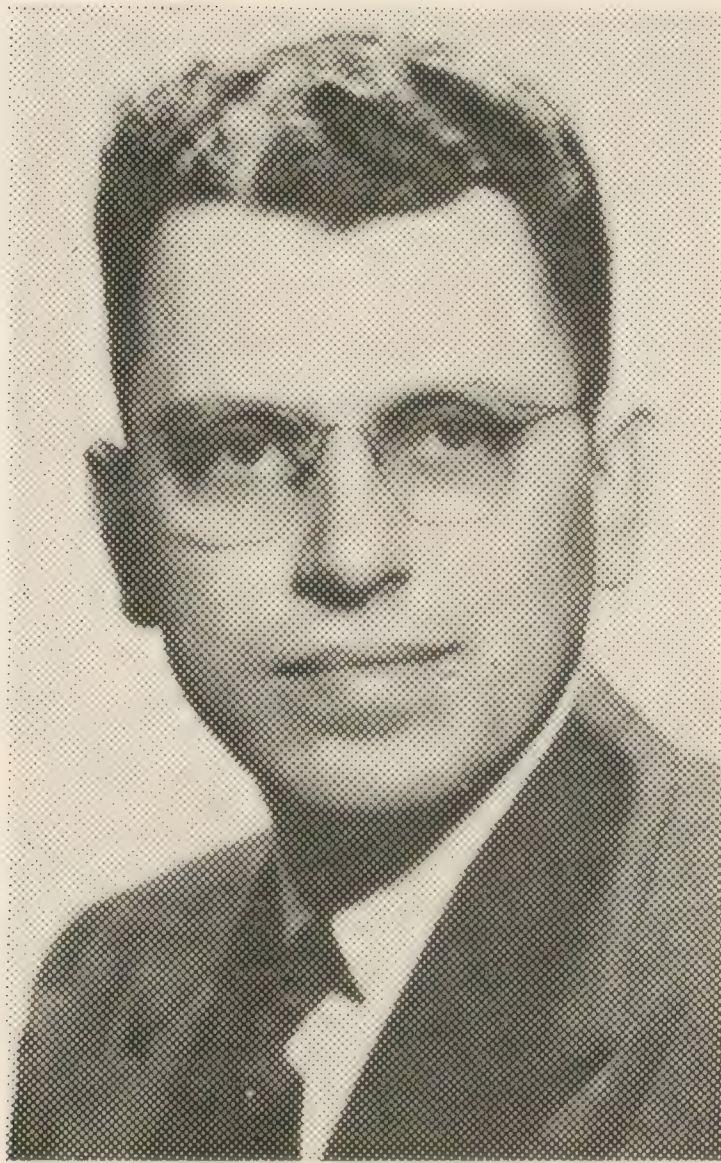
**SINK, ROBERT L.**, b. Franklin Co., Va., 8-16-1887; s. David and Martha Ann (Frantz) Sink; m. Nora M. Bridge, 12-27-1911; ch. Clarence, David, Ruth, Gabbert; att. Manchester; farmer; minister, 12-5-1918; elder, 1926; pastor and elder of Des Moines Valley, Bethel Ch., Nebr., Sabetha and Rock Creek, Kans., Bachelor Run, Ind., Rossville, Pyrmont, and Mexico, Ind.

**SMITH, W. HARLAN**, b. Ogle Co., Ill., 12-22-1893; s. William V. and Cora Idella (Swab) Smith; m. Frances Jane Sheller, 7-25-1917; ch. Pauline, Evelyn, Helen Ione, Dorothy Hope, William Dwight, Lloyd Harlan, Edward Stanley, Shirley Jane, Maurine Faye; B.A., Mt. Morris; 1½ yrs. in seminary, Bethany and Mt. Morris; principal; missionary to China, 1920-1941; minister, 1916; elder, 1920; served Bethany Church, Mo., Greene Ch., Iowa, Cerro Gordo, Ill., Flora, Ind., Ft. Wayne, Ind.; Standing Com. 4 times; home, 2202 So. Smith St., Fort Wayne.

**SMITH, LEROY**, b. Noble County, Ind., 1-11-1890; s. Franklin Samuel and Saba Ann (Zumbrum) Smith; m. Jennie C. Royer, 11-26-1913; ch. Wm., John, Ruth, Lee, Edith, Jennie, Julius, Frances, Martha, Marjorie; 3 yrs., Manchester. farmer; minister, 1907; served Kent, Ohio, Blue River, Eel River; home, North Manchester.

**SNIDER, DANIEL J.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 1-23-1905; s. of Charles and Susie





**Clarence D. Sink**

(Neff) S.; m. Treva L. Anglemeyer, 8-4-1928; ch. Thyra, Dana, Theda and Larry; H. S.; 4 yrs., Manchester College; Extension work at Goshen College; teacher; dairy farmer since 1929; min., 1929; e., 1949; S. S. teacher at Mongo, Ind., 2 yrs., and S. S. teacher at Union Center since 1929; free min. since 1939; del. to both Dist. and A. M.; res., New Paris, Ind.

**SNIDER, GEORGE A.**, b. 1871, in Perry County, Ohio, to G. L. and Rachel Roberts Snider; min., 1896; elder a few years later; pastor of Baker Church, N. W. Ohio; Superintendent of Fostoria Old Folks' Home, four years, and pastor of Fostoria Church, six years; pastor at Lima, Ohio, four years; moved to North Manchester in 1923; College trustee (from N. W. Ohio) and field man for Manchester College for about twenty years; mem. of Standing Committee, once; mgr. of Annual Conference, once; evangelist and preacher for many years. He died in November, 1949, at North Manchester.

**SOLLENBERGER, C. C.**, b. February 2, 1891, Montgomery County, Ohio; s. of Jacob J. and Martha Folkerth Sollenberger; baptized by George L. Studebaker, 1911; m. Cora M. Horst, of Spencer, Ohio, 1916; ch. Angela Mae (wife of Vernon H. Stinebaugh), Paul V. (m. to Dorothy Dawson), and Carol June (student in Manchester College, 1951); educated, Manchester College, A.B., 1916; Bethany, 1913-15, and Juniata (Theology), 1920-21; Public school teaching, five years; pastorates at Circleville, Ohio, Johnstown, Pa., Uniontown, Pa., Ephrata, Pa., Salem, Ohio, Sidney, Ohio, and Muncie, Indiana, all between 1916 and 1951. Elected to the ministry 1912, elder, 1920. Was a member of district boards in Western Pennsylvania, seventeen years; on Standing Committee, three times.

**STEELE, CYRUS**, b. Wayne Co., O., 3-30-1876; s. of Isaac and Elizabeth (Hoover) S.; m. Alva Kauffman, 12-17-1896; ch. John W., Alvin C.; common sch.;



farmer, carpenter, Co. Commissioner, inspector of weights and measures; min., 1912; e., 1920; free min., Middlebury, 1912-23; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; presiding e. for some time; res., Middlebury, Ind.

**STIFFLER, ROY**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 3-16-1926; s. of Chester and Mary (Coy) S.; m. Eleanor Matthews, 9-29-1946; ch. Robert Allen and Connie Marie; H. S., special studies at Goshen Coll. and correspondence work at Bethany Biblical Sem.; employed at Grain Elevator; min., 3-1-1949; free min. at Syracuse ch.; comm. work in local church; res., Syracuse, Ind.

**STINE, ARTHUR M.**, b. Dallas Co., Ia., 3-19-1871; s. William H. and Sarah R. (Myers) Stine; m. Alice A. Culp, 7-8-1899; m. Bertha M. Neher, 6-2-1928; ch. Ethel Maurine, Olm Merle, Ruth Arlene, Mabel Adele, Alton Earl, Wilbur Browning, Arthur Ivan; 4 yrs., Mt. Morris; teacher; farmer; minister, 1900; elder, 1911; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**STINEBAUGH, VERNON HOWARD**, b. Cass County, Ind., 4-4-1919; s. Walter C. and Merl L. (Spitler); m. Angela Sollenberger, 8-16-1942; ch. Celia Ann; B.M., Sherwood Conservatory of Music, Chicago; B.A., Univ. of Dayton, O.; M.M., Northwestern Univ.; teacher of Violin and Theory at Manchester, 1946; minister, 1942; ordained to eldership, 1951; part-time pastor at So. Whitley Church, 1948-; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**STONER, J. E.**, son of Samuel D. and Lina Norris Stoner, born June 13, 1902; baptized by W. W. Peters, 1919; married Margaret Gump, of New Carlisle, Ohio, 1928; children are John David and Rebecca Ann; ministry, 1928; educated, Manchester, A.B., 1926, University of Chicago, M.A., 1931, Ph.D., 1937; teaching experience, Portland High School, 1926-29, North Side High School, Ft. Wayne, 1930-34, Indiana University (Dept. of Government), 1938-; served Portland church as minister, 1928-29; member of numerous conferences on peace problems (Brethren Service Committee, etc.), active in the Presbyterian Church, Bloomington, Ind.

**STOUDER, CHARLES JR.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 4-11-1916; s. of Charles, Sr. and Edna (Blosser) S.; m. Evangeline Weaver, 11-14-1937; ch. Durwood Brent and Janalyce Kay; B.S. in education, Manchester Coll., 2½ yrs.; Goshen Coll., 1½ yrs.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; teacher and school principal, 1936-49; min., 11-15-1940; e., 8-25-1946; free min., Union Center Ch., 1940-41; pastor, Syracuse, 1941-44; Elkhart Valley, 1945-; Chr. No. Ind. Min. Assoc., one yr.; Dist. Conf. Director, 1948 res., Elkhart, Ind.

**STOUT, JOHN C.**, b. Seneca Co., O., 1-6-1875; s. of H. Washington and Ellen (Wurm) S.; m. Dora A. Weybright; ch. Ruth E., Russel H., Hazel S.; common sch.; farmer; dea., 3-19-1892; min., 6-13-1895; e., 12-13-1910; Free Min. at Syracuse and New Salem; e., New Salem; d., 8-14-1944.

**STOUT, RUSSEL H.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-24-1906; s. of John C. and Dora A. (Weybright) S.; m. Miriam Shively, 6-18-1930; ch. Carol Ruth and John Daniel; A.B., Manchester Coll.; M.S., Indiana U.; Grad. Work, Univ. of Wis.; teacher, Akron, 1929-37; principal H. S., 1937-39; teacher, Mishawaka H. S., 1939-46; principal Jr. H. S., 1946-; min., 11-23-1928; e., 10-22-1938; summer pastor, Kan., 1927; student pastor, Sugar Creek, 1928-29; summer pastor, Elkart Valley, 1944; eld. 1st So. Bend, 1940-43; Dist. Bo. of Ch. Ed., 1944-47; res., Mishawaka, Ind.

**STUDEBAKER, PAUL B.**, b. Deleware Co., Ind., 9-19-1896; s. of Alexander and Anna (Bairinger) S.; m. Florence Snider, 8-15-1918; ch. David H., George L., Gwendolyn; Manchester and Mt. Morris College; Bethany Seminary; pastor in Indiana, Nappanee, 1927-34; min., 1918; St. Comm. and Dist. Bd. mem.; res., Detroit, Mich.

**STULL, GEORGE**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-25-1907; s. of Martin and Alice (White) S.; m. Lucile Graybill, 9-2-1928; ch. Alice Mae, Raymond, Carrol, John



Martin, and James J.; 2 yrs. H. S.; R. R. shop, machine shops; min., 1-13-1928; e., 9-29-1935; free min., Elkhart Valley ch.; pastor of Buchanan, Mich., 1946-; elder of Elkhart Valley; res., Elkhart, Ind.

**STUMP, EDWARD**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 10-22-1888; s. of Nathaniel and Emma (Hoover) S.; m. Elizabeth Blocher, 12-24-1908; ch. Claude, Florence, Roy, Howard, Vera, Paul and Ruby; common school and short time at Bethany Biblical Sem.; farmer; min., 1915; e., 1918; free min., in Blissville, Center and Pine Creek chs.; pastor of 2nd South Bend ch., 1928-1946; Osceola, 1946-; served three times on St. Comm.; 4 yrs. on Dist. Min. Bd.; held more than 100 revival meetings; res., Osceola, Ind.

**STUMP, JOHN**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 12-19-1890; s. of Jeroboam and Sarah (Burkholder) S.; m. Susan Hoover, 12-20-1913; ch. Wilbur J., Daniel L., Esther M., and John L.; common sch. and 1 yr. Bethany Bib. Sem.; Farmer; min., 9-15-1915; e., 10-1924; del. to Dist. and A. M. many times; local ch. boards and com.; free min., Pine Creek ch.; e. of Pine Creek, 1937-43; Center Ch., 1943-; Blissville ch., 1945-47; 49-; res., Walkerton, Ind.

**SWARTZ, E. J.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 10-8-1857; s. of William and Angeline (Weil) S.; m. Esther Teeter, 1877; ch. William C., Clyde Marion, Noble A., Gertrude; business man and farmer; dea., 1891; min., 1898; free min.; d., 10-18-1928.

**SWIHART, E. C.**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 8-30-1877; s. of Ananias and (?) (Shoemaker) S.; m. Celia A. Smith, 11-19-1896; Martha E. Vincent, 12-19-1939; ch. Dr. L. F., Homer E., Dr. Glenn L. and Gladys I.; Summer Normal and Normal English, at Manchester Coll.; teacher, R. R. mail clerk, grocer 23 yrs., State Senator, 4 yrs., mgr. Auto License Bureau; min., 1-7-1917; pastor and elder at Elkhart City ch., 7 yrs., supply min. at Buchanan, Florence and North Webster churches; also elder at Osceola ch.; res., Lakeland, Fla.

**SWIHART, NERI**, b. Hancock Co., O., 10-24-1850; s. of Matthias and Mary (Thomas) S.; m. Susanna Hoffman, 4-12-1888; ch. Elva, R. O., Grace M., Naomi, Ruth; farmer; dea., 1884; min., 1891; d., Apr., 1929.

**SYMENSMA, GUY LAVON**, b. Kosciusko Co., Ind., 1-26-1927; s. of Guy and Virgie (Coy), S.; H. S.; studying Theol. at Goshen College; farmer and insurance agt.; licensed min., 3-1-1949; full ministry, 1950; active in S. S. and Y. P. work; preaching as opportunity affords; res., Syracuse, Ind.

**TEACH, ROY B.**, b. Clark Co., Ohio, 6-19-1887; s. David M. and Clara (Dresher) Teach; m. Alma D. Barnhart, 8-10-1910; ch. Lois, Ruth, Faye, Donna Lee, Carolyn, Beth; attended Manchester; B.S.L., Bethany; farmer; field work for Bethany and McPherson College; minister, 1918; eldership, 1924; served Loon Creek, Ind., Brookville, O., Cerro Gordo, Ill.

**TEETER, EDWARD CLAYTON**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 5-28-1888; s. Lewis L. and Mary Anna (Henninger) Teeter; m. Mabel Gwendoline Stauble, 7-4-1915; ch. Eugene and Marjorie; attended Spiceland Academy, Earlham, Ball State Extension; teacher and principal; minister, 1918; eldership, 1934; elder of Buck Creek ch.

**TOMLONSON, JOHN DEAN**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 5-5-1929; s. of Guy E. and Ethel S. (Sherck) T.; High Sch., 1½ yrs. Manchester Coll.; worked in feed mill and for contracting firm; min., 7-1948; free min. in Pleasant Valley ch.; student in Manchester College.

**TOWNSEND, HARLEY V.**, b. Barry Co., Mich., 12-25-1886; s. John H. and Mary Catherine (Leedy) Townsend; m. Nellie Naomi Teeter, 5-28-1913; ch. Dale Raymond, Charles Donald, Buryl Elwin, Mary Dorice, John Francis; attended Bethany, Western Mich. Normal School, Kansas; teacher; farmer; insurance executive; minister, 1914; eldership, 1918; served Woodland, Mich., Loon Creek, Ind.,



Sunfield, Mich., Battle Creek, Mich.; home, 614 W. Van Buren St., Battle Creek, Mich.

**TROYER, NATHANIEL O.**, b. Kokomo Co., Ind., 7-9-1883; s. of John and Caroline (Schrock-Kendall) T.; m. Pearl Mabel Shively, 4-18-1906; ch. Cyril Ward, Kenneth Weir, Helen Rose, Eldon Hoyt; carpenter; helped start the church work in Plymouth, Ind., and preached there before a pastor was placed; d., Fisher, Ill., 5-6-1943.



**Robert W. Tully**

**TULLY, ROBERT W.**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 8-2-1909; s. of Jesse and Winnie T.; m. Ruth E. Weaver, 5-3-1936; ch. Robert Carl and Richard Bruce; A.B., Manchester Coll; M.A., Claremont Coll.; teacher, H. S., Lavern Coll. and Bethel Coll., Kan., since 1946; also pastor in Colo., 3 yrs.; caretaker of boys in Mexico Welfare Home, also pastor in Burnettsville, Ind.; camp leader; min., 1928; e., 9-6-1944; teacher and student Indiana University, 1949-.

**ULRICH, WILLIAM M.**, b. October 5, 1875, to John, Jr., and Martha Minton Ulrich; bapt., in 1896; m. Nancy Adams, 1900; min. in 1903; ed., Manchester College and Bethany, 1904-06, 1905-07, and 1909-11; B.S.L. degree, 1911; Juniata College, A.B. and B.D. degrees, 1923; Temple University, M.S. degree, 1927; pastorates, Greene, Ia., Sterling, Ill., Tyrone, Pa., Norristown, Pa., and several periods of preaching in his home church, Salamonie; he died, 1947 or 1948.

**UREY, JOHN H.**, b. Coshocton Co., O., 1864; m. Elizabeth Stomm; min., 1894; e., 1911; preached in Cedar Lake and Pleasant Chapel churches; d., 1925.

**UREY, SAMUEL**, b. DeKalb Co., Ind., 1866; m. Cora Reinoehl; min., 1895; worked in Cedar Lake ch.; d., 1899.

**VANDYKE, GEORGE HENRY**, b. Mifflin Co., Pa., 1863; s. of Archybald and Esther (Swigart) V.; m. Catherine Beery, 10-1-1891; ch. Mary, Irene, George Enoch, Esther, Clarence Lee, Eunice and Paul Berry; Normal; M.D., Northwestern U., 1891; Post Grad. of Rush Med. Coll., 1898; mem. of faculty of Ill. U., 1904-14; taught U. Extension Classes of Indiana U., 1921-26; practiced medicine in Ill., O., Neb., Kan., Ark., and Ind.; min., 1893; free min. where he practiced med.; opened and conducted Brethren's Dispensary in Chicago for ten yrs.; pastor of Chicago ch. for a time; res., Winona Lake, Ind.



**VANSCOYK, LEO A.**, b. Pulaski, Ind., 2-25-1893; s. Arthur J. and Ellen (Layman) Vanscoyk; m. Leona Hahn, 12-24-1916; ch. Oris E., Edward A., Chester H., Ellen, Ardis J., Mildred D.; farmer; factory worker; minister, 1943; served Beaver Creek, Ind., and Buffalo, Ind.; home, R. R. 2, Winamac, Ind.

**WAGONER, GRANT F.**, b. 1887 to Andrew and Susan Hufford Wagoner, Carrol County; baptized by L. T. Holsinger, 1903; married Abigail Hill, Arcadia, Indiana, 1914; children are Myrtle, Ruth, Paul, Helen, and Dora; ministry, 1910; elder, 1916; Manchester College, A.B., 1914; graduate work at Indiana University; teaching public schools in Indiana, Idaho, and Washington, twelve years; farmer, Pyrmont, since 1923; elder, Arcadia church, 1918-1922.

**WAGONER, JOHN R.**, b. Tippecanoe County, 1918, to John E. and Mary Studebaker Wagoner; baptized by Homer Caskey, 1927; married Martha Stoffer, 1941; children are Helen and J. D.; educated at Manchester College, A.B., 1939, Indiana University, M.S., and Western Reserve University, M.D.; ministry, 1937; pastor, Pittsburg, Indiana, 1939-41 and Bristolville, Ohio, 1943-45; teacher in High School, Indiana, 1939-44; physician at Delphi, since 1949.

**WAGONER, RALPH W.**, b. Clinton Co., Ind., 8-17-1924; s. Marvin C. and Cecile Hope (Cripe) Wagoner; m. Ruth E. Royer, 11-25-1948; attended Rossville H. S., Manchester College and attending Bethany Seminary at present; summer pastor at Upper Deer Creek.

**WEAVER, ERVIN**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 3-26-1888; s. of Benjamin and Sarah (Troup) W.; m. Hattie Carbiener, 10-3-1911; ch. George (deceased), Sarah (Singrey), Thelma (Scantlen), Ruth (deceased), Eugene, Mark; Manchester Academy and Bethany Biblical Seminary; farmer until 1913; free minister, Bremen, 1908-1913; pastor Oak Grove, Ill., Spokane and Centralia, Wash., Rock Run, Osceola and North Liberty, Ind., 1919-44; supt. Mexico Welfare Home, 1944-47; pastor Midland, Mich., 1947-; res., 115 Mill St., Midland, Mich.

**WEAVER, GRANT EARL**, b. Somerset Co., Pa., s. Jacob A. and Lovina (Hoffman) Weaver; m. Lutie Sargent, 6-6-1926; ch. Marlin Earl, Galen Roy, Mayno Joyce; A.B., and B.D., Juniata College; teacher; minister, 1920; eldership, 1926; served Nanty Glo, Pa., Pleasant Hill, Pa., Bradford, Ohio, Harris Creek, O., Wabash, Ind., Andrews, Ind.; home, 576 M. East St., Wabash, Ind.

**WEAVER, IRA EUGENE**, b. Elkhart Co., Ind., 2-1-1884; s. Levi E. and Emma (Schrock) Weaver; m. Della Sherck, 4-15-1906; ch. Paul T., Welcome I., Mabelle G.; attended Manchester and Bethany; farmer, hardware dealer, popcorn processor; minister, 1912; Eldership, 1919; served Yellow Creek, Ill., Cherry Grove, Ill., and Union Grove, Ind.; elder at Cherry Grove, Ill., Union Grove, Ind., Salamonie, Ind.; home, R. 6, Huntington, Ind.

**WEAVER, JOHN E.**, b. Wayne Co., Ohio, 7-5-1857; s. of Levi and Elizabeth (Eshleman) W.; m. Nancy Jane Gardner, 1-4-1885; ch. Elmer, Myrtis, and Verda; one term, Manchester Coll.; farmer; min., 11-17-1893; e., 12-30-1909; free min. and elder at Rock Run; d., 7-26-1926.

**WEAVER, LEVI H.**, b. Lancaster Co., Pa., 1826; m. Elizabeth Eshleman, 2-7-1847; ch. Abraham, Anna, Levi, John E., Elizabeth and Sadie; farmer; dea., 1851; min., 1859; e., (?); free min. in Wayne Co., O., and Elkhart Co., Ind., 1865-93; preached in German sometimes; d., 1893.

**WEAVER, MAHLON J.**, b. Somerset Co., Pa., 9-22-1876; s. of Jacob A. and Lovina (Hoffman) W.; m. Fannie Richey, 10-31-1909; Roxie E. Hankins, 8-31-1918; ch. Ferne E., E. Paul and L. John; grad. Normal Eng. and Sacred Lit. at Juniata Coll. and 2 yrs. Western Theol. Sem., also Bible Conferences; farmer and teacher of pub. sch.; pastor of nine eastern churches, Elgin, Ill., and at Nappanee, Ind., 1941-43; attended 35 Annual Confs., 31 times as del.; St. Comm., twice; res., Tyrone, Pennsylvania.



**WEIMER, GLEN EMERSON**, b. Randolph Co., Ind., 4-6-1904; s. of George B. and Blanche Pearl (Fox) W.; m. Clarabel Kauffman, 5-10-1925; ch. Peter and Nancy; B.A., Ashland Coll., 1931; B.D., Oberlin School of Theol., 1935; grad. work at Oberlin in 1943; pastor of several churches in Ohio and Michigan; pastor of 1st So. Bend Ch., 1943-1950; min., 1925; e., 1932.

**WEISS, LORELL**, b. McHenry Co., N. Dak., 8-2-1907; s. of Emanuel and Christina (Konig) W.; m. Sylvia DeHart; ch. Shirley Ann and Robert John; A.B., 1929, LaVerne College; B.D., Bethany Biblical Sem., 1934; M.A., Claremont Graduate School, 1942; U. of So. Cal., 1 yr.; work in Indiana; pastor of Elkhart City, 1932-35; Standing Com., 1939, 1943; member of various dist., reg., and Annual Conf. committees; now a member of Elgin staff.



**Russel H. Weller and Wife**

**WELLER, RUSSEL H.**, b. Wabash Co., Ind., 5-21-1893; s. of H. A. and Rosa E. (Deardorff) W.; m. Maude Boyer, 8-12-1916; ch. Paul E.; Mt. Morris College, Louis Inst., Purdue Univ., Manchester College, A.B., Bethany Biblical Seminary, B.D.; farmer, school teacher, carpenter; pastor Marilla and Battle Creek, Mich., North Liberty, New Salem, Markle, Ind., 1917-1933, and Pleasant Dale, 1933-1949; Bd. Christian Ed.; elder number churches; del. An. Conf.; mem. St. Comm.; res., Berne, Ind.

**WELLINGTON, JOHN R.**, b. Madison Co., Ind., 8-7-1840; s. William and Elizabeth (Hollingsworth) Wellington; m. Malinda Holt, 9-3-1838; ch. Calvin, Sigel, Leathy, Drury, Charles, Edgar; farmer; carpenter; minister, 1880; eldership, 1893; served Kilbuck and Anderson; home, 1225 Home Ave., Anderson, Ind.

**WENGER, R. C.**, b. Miami Co., Ohio, 3-23-1887; s. John V. and Sarah Catherine (Cloppert) Wenger; m. Ada A. Klepinger, 10-17-1909; ch. Galen, Ruth, Naomi,



Miriam; A.B., Manchester; B.D., Bethany; M.A., University of Chicago; 2 yrs. grad. studies, Northwestern Univ.; college teacher at Manchester, 1920-1942; minister, 1910; eldership, 1922; Served Pleasant Dale, North Winona, Springfield, Ill., Indianapolis, Ind., Grand Rapids, Mich.; home, 311 Burton S. W., Grand Rapids, Mich.

**WHITE, LAWRENCE**, b. Fayette Co., Ind., 9-17-1900; s. of Omer and Stella (Fant) W.; m. Sara Jane Joseph, 11-26-1925; A.B., Manchester Coll., 1925; M.S., Indiana U., 1938; teacher pub. sch. and H. S.; min., 1921; free min., Fayette Co., O., Liberty and Nappanee, Ind.

**WIKE, HENRY B.**, b. in Pennsylvania, 1853, to George and Elizabeth Brumbaugh Wike; at about 12, he made his home with George and Barbara Paul, his father having been killed; bapt. at sixteen; m. Phoebe Ulrich in 1880; min., at twenty-one; elder, later; had charge of Landessville Church but lived and served almost all his life in the Salamonie Church. He died in 1924.

**WILL, HARPER S.**, b. in Rockingham County, Virginia, January 30, 1902, to Samuel G. and Sallie Hollar Will; bapt. by Luther Miller, 1914; m. Naomi Royer, 1928; children, Cosette W. Wareham and Wanda R.; ed., Bridgewater (A.B., 1923), Bethany Biblical Seminary, 1925-27; Yale Divinity School, 1927-28, B.D. and D.D.; pastorates, Twin Falls, Idaho, 1928-34, Wenatchee, Washington, 1934-40, Chicago, 1941-51, First South Bend, 1951-; Standing Committee, four times; moderator of District Conference, twice; moderator of Annual Conference (acting in place of C. C. Ellis, 1950), once.

**WORKMAN, C. A.**, b. Knox Co., Ohio, 7-7-1882; s. Uriah Curtis and Barbara I. Workman; m. Ada Halsey, 5-9-1918 (deceased); attended Danville High School, Waughtells Business, Canton College and Bible Inst., and Juniata College; Undertaker until, 1933; painter; preached various places including Pittsburgh Church and the Logansport Mission; address: Flora, Indiana.

**WRIGHT, VAN B.**, b. Highland Co., Ohio, 1-20-1892; s. of Lewis and Nancy (Colvin) W.; m. Nora Shively, 6-29-19; ch. Paul J., Mary Elizabeth and Donald; Alumnus of Moody Bible Institute and National College of Drugless Therapeutics; dea., 4-2-1908; m., 10-11-1908; e., 1-20-1919; pastor, So. Ohio counties under Miss. Bd., 1911-25; E. Dayton, 1925-1931; Grand Rapids, Mich., 1931-36; Twin Falls, Idaho, 1936-39; Fort Wayne, 1939-48; Glendale, Cal., 1948-; S. C., 1929, 1931, 1938; mod. D. M.; writing clerk, D. M., twice; Welfare Bd., one term; elder, numerous times.

**YODER, CARL B.**, b. Wayne Co., O., 9-29-1874; s. of Yost D. and Sophia S. (Yoder) Y.; m. Idella Fry, 3-3-1904; H. S. and some time spent at Bethany Biblical Sem.; farmer, telephone worker and store clerk for 30 yrs.; min., 2-28-1914; e., 10-9-1920; free min., at English Prairie since election to min.; pastor at Shipshewana, 1925-30; dea. for few yrs. previous to ministry; res., Howe, Ind.

**YODER, CARL E.**, b. Marshall Co., Ind., 7-30-1909; s. of Henry A. and Lydia A. (Shumaker) Y.; m. Lilian V. Moyers, 6-11-1943; ch. Jan., Allen, Max Dean and Gene Lee; B.S., McPherson Coll.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; carpenter and house builder; min., 5-29-1938; summer pastor in N. Dak.; pastor, Osceola, Ind., and Mansfield, O.; res., Thurmont, Md.

**YODER, CHAS. M.**, b. St. Joseph Co., Ind., 10-12-1885; s. of William H. and Grace (Webster) Y.; m. Jessie Swaim, 9-28-1908; ch. Hugh, Henry, Harriet and James; H. S. 1904; business; dea. 4-3-1916; min. 9-5-1918; e. 12-8-1924; pastor and elder at Oak Grove ch. (No. Ind.), 1932-40; res. South Bend.

**YOUNG, LESTER A.**, b. Wabash Co. Ind., 6-17-1917; s. of Samuel L. and May C. (Baker) Y.; m. Mary Elizabeth Winger; A.B., Manchester Coll.; M.S., Indiana U.; B.D., Bethany Bib. Sem.; H. S. teacher, Warsaw and North Webster, Ind., 1939-47;



min., 10-13-1940; e., 1949; pastor, No. Webster, 1942-44; No. Winona, 1947-; Nat. B. Y. P. D. pres., Dist. B. Y. P. D. pres., Dist. Men's Cab.; Dist. Miss. Sec.; res. Warsaw, Ind.

**YOUNG, S. L.**, b. Darke Co., Ohio, 9-2-1878; s. A. C. and Minerva (Landis) Young; m. Mary C. Baker 12-25-1909; ch. Lester A., Bruce, Esther; attended Bethany; farmer; minister 1910; eldership 1919; served Covington, N. D., West Manchester, Ind.; home, North Manchester, Ind.

**ZELLER, HARRY K., JR.**, b. Washington Co., Va., 3-27-1915; s. Harry K. and Luella May (Highbarger) Zeller; m. Juanita Ruth Holsopple, 9-5-1939; ch. Marie Ann, Norman Lee, Richard Allen; A.B. Bridgewater; B.D. Bethany; M.A. Butler Univ.; minister 1934; eldership 1942; served Richmond, Va., Indianapolis, Ind., Elgin, Ill., McPherson, Kans.; res. McPherson, Kans.

**ZIGLER, JACOB S.**, b. Augusta Co., Va., 2-26-1873; s. of John and Sallie M.; m. Lella E. Sanger, 12-22-1902; Carrie Ulery, 9-1931; Anna F. Cover, 9-24-1944; ch. Ola Odessa and Ann Orvilla; grad. of Bridgewater Coll. and some work at Bethany Biblical Seminary; taught music and Public School in Va. and West. Va.; farmer; deacon, 4-21-1906; min. 4-13-1907; e. 12-15-1907; free min. in W. Va.; pastor in Va. 1922-25; in Portland and Hickory Grove ch., Ind., 1925-29; Rock Run, 1929-42; North Winona, 1942-47; English Prairie, 1948-50; once on Standing Com.; Dist. Treas. 9 yrs.; Dist. Mission Bd., 3 yrs.; d. 1-11-1950.

**ZIRKLE, ORA HAMILTON**, b. Henry Co., Ind., 8-30-1890; s. George H. and Mary D. (Hoel) Zirkle; m. Alice Marie Ritchie 9-16-1912; ch. Margaret A., Viola M., Lillian I., Harold W., Lena M., Velma I., George R., Mary JoAnn; carpenter, factory worker, general contractor; minister 1920; eldership 1938; free min. at Middletown until 1942, pastor there 1942-1948; res. 405 N. 8th St., Middletown, Ind.

**ZOOK, GORMAN A.**, b. Huntington Co., Ind., 5-13-1906; s. of Ward and Lucinda E. (Paul) Z.; m. L. Nina Ross, 6-8-1929; ch. Vivian Louise, Harold Eugene, Loren Edward; Manchester College, A.B. plus additional work; school teacher, Lakeville and LaGrange; pastor, Mt. Pleasant, Bremen and Cedar Lake, Ind., Osage, Kansas, Fieldman, Kans., Des Moines Valley, Ia.; res., Elkhart, Iowa.

**ZUNKLE, CHARLES E.**, b. Logan Co., Colo., 2-26-1905; s. of Walter R. and Matilda (Walters) Z.; m. Cleda Pearl Shull, 6-12-1928; ch. C. Wayne, Carolyn M.; ed. H. S. Colo., Manchester College A.B., Bethany Biblical Seminary B.D.; pastor Pleasant Hill, O., Michigan City, Ind., Danville, and Lima, O.. Wenatchee, Wash., 1928-48; Sec. Min. and Home Miss Com., 1948-; Mem. St. Comm., Mod. N. W. Ohio Conf. and Dist. of Wash. Conf.; res. 506 Lawrence Ave., Elgin, Ill.

**SHERMAN, ORVILLE**, was born in Nappanee, Ind., in 1913. He united with the Church of the Brethren at the age of 15. He was married to Lois Sherman in 1935. He has been very active in the local work and went to Italy with a load of horses serving as crew foreman. He gave a year of Volunteer Service in Venezuela under the Brethren Service Committee and stayed on another year working for the Venezuelan government on their colonization program.

**HEETER, MRS. GEORGE**, was born in Ashland Co., Ohio, in 1907. She united with the church early in life and has always been very active in both Church and Sunday School activities. She taught school several years before her marriage to Bro. Heeter and is now teaching in Elkhart City. She received her education at Manchester College. She has been the Peace and Temperance director of the District of Northern Indiana for some years, as an activity of the Board of Christian Education.







## CHAPTER X

### ANNUAL MEETINGS IN INDIANA

Indiana, because of its central position geographically, has become a favorite and convenient location for our Annual Conferences. In all, there have been twenty-two held in the state. This has brought a large part of the membership of the Brotherhood to Indiana, at one time or another. Besides, when meetings are held either East or West, Indiana is in the pathway through which the traveler will likely go.

#### **SPECIAL GENERAL COUNCIL, 1848**

##### **Carroll County**

The first General Conference held in the State was in the fall of 1848. In the spring of that year the General Conference was held in Wayne County, Ohio. To this meeting came a request for a general Council Meeting to be held in Indiana that fall. The decision was as follows:

“It was considered with one accord that such a meeting shall be held, God willing, at the house of Brother John Koontz, near Delphi, Carroll County, Indiana, to meet on Saturday, September 23; Sunday September 24, to be public worship and love feast, and Monday, the 25th, the Council Meeting to begin.”

The occasion for this meeting was some trouble that had been existing among the Brethren in Carroll County for years. Peter Eyman was the first minister of the Church of the Brethren in the Bachelor Run church. He came from Montgomery County, Ohio, in 1828. The following year Peter Replogle was elected to the ministry. He lived on Deer Creek, near Camden. Soon after this there arose a difference between Peter Eyman and Peter Replogle. They settled the matter for the time being by dividing the congregation, and by making the dividing line irregular to accommodate some who wanted to go with one minister or the other. Peter Replogle was on the Deer Creek side, while Peter Eyman was in Bachelor Run.

The trouble between Eyman and Replogle did not stop with this arrangement. The membership was divided in their views. To add to the feeling, Elder Eyman began to advocate views not in harmony with the general practice of the church. Others sympathized with him and became quite free to speak their convictions. Irregularities and confusion ensued to such an extent that the Indiana Brethren decided to call for the General Council.



The minutes of this Special Council contain twelve sections. Nearly all of them deal with one phase or another of the local church troubles. Here are a few of them:

1. Whether a private brother has a right to speak in public meeting?

2. Whether it is proper if more than two or three teachers should rise in a common meeting to speak?

3. How is it considered when a part, say a minority, of a church disowns the other part, or a majority of the members, without taking a legal or a scriptural course, and without giving a legal notice to the body of the church, and not showing or informing the disowned members wherein they have transgressed?

Article 5 dealt with secret orders in the church. Some of the members were beginning to take part with the secret orders. The council was forbearing, but stood firm against allowing secret orders to come into the church.

Articles 6, 7, and 8 dealt with troubles growing out of having the irregular boundary line between the two churches. Article 9 dealt with brethren going to law with brethren. Articles 10 and 11 considered the proper attitude to be taken toward disowned members. Article 12 was an answer to article 3, which in brief was as follows: "considered that there had been errors on both sides; that since many members on both sides had made satisfactory acknowledgements before the meeting, all should be forgiven and forgotten; that all others that should yet do so should be received in full fellowship. Those leaders in the movement should have a reasonable time to make acknowledgment, and if they do, to forgive them, but if they continue in their course, there would be no other way than to put them in full avoidance, according to I Cor. 5.

Signed by the following brethren: George Hoke, George Shively, Joseph Showalter, and Henry Kurtz of Northeastern Ohio; Joseph Gerber and Peter Nead, of Southwestern Ohio; Daniel Cripe of Elkhart, Indiana; J. Molsbaugh, D. Miller, J. Hart, H. Metzger, J. Metzger, Jac. Brower, etc.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1852**

#### **Baintertown, Elkhart County**

From the minutes of 1851 we glean the following: "There was but one invitation for the meeting of 1852, from our brethren in Northern Indiana. It was concluded that our next Yearly Meeting on Pentecost, 1852, should be, God willing, in Turkey Creek church, at the place of John Weiland, five miles south of Goshen, Elkhart County, Indiana."

The official report of the opening of this meeting reads as follows:



"According to the appointment of last year the brethren began to assemble on Saturday, and on account of quite a large congregation being collected, public worship was commenced that afternoon, and continued on Sunday from nine o'clock in the morning till late in the afternoon. On Monday morning, before public worship, the Yearly Meeting was organized by a general committee being chosen, which then retired and received the papers sent in, while public worship was continued. Monday evening the papers were distributed among eleven committees, and on Tuesday morning, the first of June, the General Council assembled, as usual with singing, exhortation and prayer."

"There were possibly near five thousand people in attendance, about one thousand of whom were members of the Church of the Brethren. There were preaching services each evening and during the meeting eighteen were baptized."—Opperman. Baintertown was a little village two miles north of New Paris, on the Elkhart River.

The work of the Conference had very little that pertained to Indiana conditions, any more than any other state. The meeting was closed with prayer and praise on Wednesday evening. The Standing Committee at the meeting was composed of George Hoke, George Shively, Daniel Barnhart, D. P. Saylor, Benjamin Bowman, D. Miller and Henry Kurtz.

#### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1858 Near Flora, Carroll County**

The announcement for the Conference of 1858 read as follows: "There was a renewal of the request from the Bachelor Run Church, Indiana, for the Annual Meeting of 1858."

The time appointed for the meeting proved to be a very rainy season. The country there is low, anyway. There was rain and water everywhere. Nevertheless the brethren of those days were not used to great comforts at the time of meeting, and so there were large crowds, even from a distance. There was preaching at various places in the neighborhood.

The meeting was not organized till Monday morning, when the Standing Committee and its officers were chosen. There were delegates from 122 churches. These delegates were divided into fifteen committees, each of which took into consideration some of the queries sent to the meeting. Then, instead of having the Standing Committee do all the work, various sub-committees reported on the various questions to be considered., and generally had some answer framed.

There were more than sixty queries sent to this Conference. Some of these questions were of vital importance, and some merely dealt with local conditions here and there. One is impressed that the brethren gen-



erally gave as wise answers as could well be given at that time. On the Standing Committee this year, Indiana was represented by George Shively, of St. Joseph County, John Metzger, of Middle Fork, and John Moyer, of Four Mile. George Hoke was moderator and D. P. Saylor writing clerk. Other members of the committee were John Brower, Peter Nead, Daniel Miller of Ohio, John Berkey of Pennsylvania, John Kline of Virginia, Isaac Pfoutz of Maryland, and John Emmert of Illinois.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1864** **Hagerstown, Wayne County**

For several years the Nettle Creek church had desired the Yearly Meeting. Their presiding elder, David Hardman, especially had desired that his church entertain the Conference. The Conference of 1863 had granted the meeting. But before the time came, Elder Hardman had been called to the home beyond.

The place of the meeting was one mile west of Hagerstown. It was held at and near the large meeting-house. Just south of the house was a grove where the main tabernacle and dining-rooms had been erected. The ground here was of a sandy soil and dry all during the meeting. Elder James Quinter said he arrived on Friday evening and already there were large crowds assembled. The meeting-house was used as a sleeping place at night.

On Sunday there was public preaching at six different places. People seemed anxious to hear the Word of God. John Kline, D. P. Saylor and James Quinter were the leading speakers. There were some very touching meetings. Some of the brethren from the Southern states had with difficulty arrived at the meeting and did not know whether they would ever reach their homes again. This was one of the first Conferences that Elder R. H. Miller attended and took part in. He was just then beginning to attract the attention of the Brotherhood by his ability.

Some forty queries were disposed of in this meeting. This was in the time of the great Civil War. War spirit ran high. There were many soldier boys at the meeting, most of whom were just home for a short furlough. It was interesting to note that while the war had torn some religious bodies asunder, there was a people whose love for each other this war had not injured. Here with love and sympathy for each other the brethren were trying to solve their problems. One of the questions and its answer will show the position of the Brethren on the perplexing questions of the day.

“Art. 35. As our national troubles, consequent upon the rebellion now existing in our country, have caused considerable difficulties in our church, and have tried our non-resistant principles, and have caused



several questions concerning the paying of bounty money, voting, etc., to come before this Council Meeting, what counsel will this Annual Meeting give upon these subjects?

“Answer: We exhort the brethren to steadfastness in the faith, and believe that the times in which our lots are cast strongly demand of us a strict adherence to all our principles, especially our non-resistant principle, a principle dear to every subject of the Prince of Peace, and a prominent doctrine of our Fraternity, and to endure whatever sufferings and to make whatever sacrifice the maintaining of the principle may require, and not to encourage in any way the practice of war. And we think it more in accordance with our principles, that instead of paying bounty money, to await the demands of the government, whether general, State, or local, and pay the fines and taxes required of us, as the Gospel permits, and, indeed, requires (Matt. 22:21; Rom. 13:7). And lest the position we have taken upon political matters in general, and the war matters in particular, should seem to make us, as a body, appear to be indifferent to our government, or in opposition thereto in its efforts to suppress the rebellion, we hereby declare that it has our sympathies and our prayers, and that it shall have our aid in any way that does not conflict with the Gospel of Christ. But since, in our Christian profession, we regard these Gospel principles as superior or paramount to all others, consistency requires that we so regard them in our practice.”

John Kline of Virginia was moderator of this meeting. This was to be his last one. For shortly after his return to his Southern State he was assassinated by some Southern rebels.

Indiana was represented this year on the Standing Committee by David Miller, John Bowman and Daniel Bowman. All three of these had once been members of the Nettle Creek Church, though at this time David Miller lived in St. Joseph County and John Bowman lived in Huntington County. Daniel Bowman was the presiding elder when the meeting was held. The other members of the Standing Committee were as follows: John Kline, John Wine, of Virginia; D. P. Saylor of Maryland; Leonard Furry and David Gerlich of Pennsylvania; Henry Davy and James Quinter of Ohio; Christian Long and Samuel Garber of Illinois; Jacob Brower of Iowa; and John Brower of Kansas.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1868** **Rock Run Church, Elkhart County**

The Annual Meeting of 1868 was held at the Rock Run Church, five miles southeast of the city of Goshen. Arrangements were made with the railroad, now known as the New York Central, to stop trains at the place of meeting, which is only a few rods from the railroad. The



main part of the services were not held at the church, but at the large barn of Elder Jacob Berkey, a few rods to the east.

There was an unusually large crowd present. As was the custom the Brethren held the love feast at the time of this meeting, though it was considered for awhile that it would be best to dispense with the feast this year on account of the crowd. Some brethren in the neighborhood kept overnight as many as sixty and seventy members. All were fed free of charge at the place of meeting. There were meetings held in various places near here. One of the sermons well remembered was that preached by Elder James Quinter in Goshen.

The business session opened Tuesday morning, June 2. H. D. Davy of Ohio was moderator, D. P. Saylor, reading clerk, and James Quinter, writing clerk. David Bechtelheimer of Beaverdam, Jacob Miller of Portage, Daniel Bowman of Hagerstown, and F. P. Loehr of Van Buren, represented Indiana on the Standing Committee. The other members were John P. Eversole, Daniel Miller, James Quinter, B. F. Moomaw, Daniel Thomas, Jacob Wine, D. P. Saylor, Isaac Fouts, David Long, Conrad G. Lint, Daniel M. Holsinger, Joseph Rohrer, Christan Long, Samuel Lehman, John Wise, Jacob Brower, Abraham Replogle, Henry Brubaker, and John Metzger. Henry Kurtz and Peter Nead were not members of the committee, but because of their age and acknowledged service for the church were invited to be present with the committee.

The business of the meeting this year was not so heavy. There was discussed at length a better plan for doing mission work. There were calls for thirteen committees to local churches. Eight of these calls came from Indiana. The brethren in those days too, evidently had their problems.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1878 North Manchester, Wabash County**

The Annual Conference of 1878 was held in the Manchester church at their large meetinghouse, two miles west of North Manchester. The brethren had provided much larger accommodations for the meeting. Just south of the church, where the cemetery is now located, a large tabernacle was erected. It was 272 feet long and 80 feet wide. One-half of it was used for the main audience-room and the other half for a dining-hall.

On Saturday before the Conference there was a meeting held in the Ogans Creek meetinghouse, six miles southeast of North Manchester. The purpose of this meeting on the part of some of the leading men was how more effectually to carry out the plan for spreading the Gospel as had been recommended at the meeting ten years previous. The organization that had been formed was known as the "Church Extension





**The old meeting house at West Manchester where the Annual Meeting of 1878 was held.**

Union.” James Quinter was the president. Howard Miller was the secretary. These men and others felt that the time had come when active work should be done in the spread of the Gospel. At Ogans Creek the organized plan was thoroughly discussed and a more complete form of organization formulated.

At the Conference the following week this movement developed much discussion. Three papers came to the Conference protesting against the union. Brethren Quinter and Miller made extended explanations. While the paper could not pass on account of not having come through a state district, yet it was a suggestion that took root and was to spring up later.

There was considerable preaching at this Conference. On Sunday morning S. H. Bashor preached in the meetinghouse and Moses Miller preached in the tabernacle. On Monday S. H. Bashor preached again, followed by another sermon by S. Z. Sharp. In North Manchester there were several meetings held. Landon West gave a temperance sermon. But perhaps the most interesting meeting was held in the Lutheran Church, where Sister Sarah Major was the preacher. The Manchester Journal says that “she is a fluent talker, a deep logical reasoner. The anxiety to hear her was so great that only a small number of the vast crowd that went could get into the church.”

All reports say that there was one of the largest crowds ever assembled at an Annual Meeting up to that time. On Saturday “there were fifty-six coaches full of delegates arrived. It was estimated that there were fifteen or twenty thousand people at or near the Conference



grounds on Sunday." It is said that there were 1500 teams in the neighborhood.

On Monday, June 10, Standing Committee met and organized by appointing Enoch Eby, moderator, James Quinter, writing clerk, R. H. Miller, reading clerk, and Samuel Zug, doorkeeper. This was Enoch Eby's first experience as moderator, though he had been reading clerk a few times before. He evidently did his work well, for again and again, in later years he was elected to the same position. This was R. H. Miller's first experience as an officer of Annual Meeting.

The meeting seems to have passed off as pleasantly as could be expected, considering the fact that the church was nearing the division period.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF 1882

#### Arnold's Grove, Elkhart County

The Annual Meeting of this year was held within the bounds of the Solomon's Creek church. It was held on the farm of Brother John Arnold, one mile west of the Solomon's Creek house, and two miles north of Milford Junction, on what was then called the Cincinnati, Wabash and Michigan Railroad, now the Michigan division of the Big Four. The committee of arrangements was composed of the following brethren: W. R. Deeter, John Arnold, J. H. Miller, I. L. Berkey, W. G. Cook, Michael Shotts, John Nusbaum and John Shoemaker. Large and commodious buildings were provided for the meeting and dining room, while the churchhouse was used as a sleeping room.

The meeting was organized for work by electing Enoch Eby moderator, John Wise, reading clerk and James Quinter writing clerk. Jacob Rife, Joseph Leedy and Jeremiah Gump represented Indiana on this committee.

Few Standing Committees ever had more difficult problems to grapple with than did this one. The Old Order Brethren had recently left the church. The Progressive Brethren, too, were soon to go. The meeting at Arnold's Grove will ever be remembered as the place where the division in the Church of the Brethren occurred and the Progressive Brethren church was organized. This one question overshadowed every other here, and so we give an extended account of this.

Trouble had been brewing for years.. It largely centered around Elder H. R. Holsinger, of the Berlin church, Pennsylvania. He had been editor of *The Christian Family Companion* for years and had come to advocate some very radical measures of church work and polity. This finally led to a committee consisting of John Wise, Enoch Eby, David Long, Joseph Kauffman and Christian Bucher known as the Berlin Committee. They met with the Berlin church to try Elder Holsinger on some of the general charges. In addition to these a dif-



ference arose as to the method of procedure in the trial. This can best be gleaned from the committee's report to the Conference at Arnold's Grove.

"We the undersigned committee, appointed by Annual Meeting to go to the Berlin church, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, to wait on Elder H. R. Holsinger, and deal with him according to his transgressions, do report as follows:

"Met with the Berlin church on Tuesday, August 9, 1881, and were unanimously accepted by the church, H. R. Holsinger included. And upon the question to H. R. Holsinger, whether he would accede to, and accept of, the general usages of the church in conducting this investigation, he declined, whereupon a lengthy discussion followed upon the following departure from the general usages of the church.

"1st, H. R. Holsinger employed a stenographer to take down and publish the proceedings of the council. 2nd, The Council to be held in the presence of persons not members of the church, which discussion closed by the Berlin church saying that they had passed a resolution in the absence of the committee, that they will have a full report of proceedings taken; and right on this, passed in the presence of the committee, the following:

" 'Resolved that this council shall be held openly, and persons not members of the Brethren church will be considered present by courtesy only, and none but the members of the Berlin church and the committee are invited to participate in the businesss.'

"Wednesday, August 10, met at 9 A.M. according to adjournment. The chairman announced to the meeting that the committee feared that the members did not understand the responsibilities they assumed yesterday and proposed a reconsideration and rescinding of their decisions. After some investigation as to the propriety of reconsideration Brother Holsinger gave liberty for anyone to make a motion to that effect, but no motion was offered. After due time the committee retired and decided as follows:

" 'In view of the above considerations, especially in view of the fact that Brother H. R. Holsinger refused to have his case investigated by the committee in harmony with the Gospel as interpreted by Annual Meeting, and the consent of our General Brotherhood, and in as much as Brother H. R. Holsinger and the Berlin church assume all responsibility in the case, therefore, we decided: that Brother H. R. Holsinger cannot be held in fellowship in the Brotherhood, and all who depart with him shall be held responsible to the action of the next Annual Meeting.' "

It is doubtful if any other Annual Meeting of the Church of the Brethren was ever awaited with such fearful forebodings as the one of



1882. Elder Holsinger and those who sympathized with him did not consider the work of the committee legal, while many who did not sympathize with him felt that the committee had overstepped its bounds. On the other hand the majority of the church felt that patience with Elder Holsinger had ceased to be a virtue, and that the decision of the committee was the best thing possible under the circumstances. In the meantime Elder Holsinger continued his work as a minister and bishop; and as an editor he was never more active than during the months following his expulsion by the committee. Many articles appeared in *The Progressive Christian* from his friends, who vigorously lampooned the committee for their action. This only caused the situation to become more intense and all looked forward to see whether the Annual Meeting would accept the report of the committee.

After the above report was read at Arnold's Grove, Elder John Wise made an explanation of their work and gave reasons both from the Minutes of Annual Meeting and the Gospel to uphold the course of the committee. D. C. Moomaw then presented what he termed the Olive Branch of Peace. According to this Elder Holsinger was to make satisfaction for his past offences and promise to conduct himself in the future in harmony with the doctrine and practices of the church. In order that this paper might be examined by Holsinger's friends before they endorsed it, Brother Moomaw desired that final decision be put off till the next day.

Following this, a heated discussion began and continued during most of the day. Holsinger's friends, and even many who had been his greatest opponents, contended that he ought to have one more chance to set himself right. Others believed that the time for this was past until the Conference had accepted the report of the committee; then, if Elder Holsinger was sincere in his desire to work with the church, he could be reinstated at any time in the regular way. He, however, said that while he could acknowledge to Annual Meeting that he had made mistakes, he could never acknowledge that the work of the committee was legal. When the motion to accept the committee's report was put to the meeting, it was declared adopted.

"In those days all the members present voted. The vast congregation was made to seat themselves beyond the limit of the tent. It was an impressive moment. Nearly one day had been spent in discussing one of the gravest questions of the Brotherhood. And now this vast congregation, being perhaps the largest assembly of members that ever met in America, was about to render a decision that would settle a question that had been agitating the mind of the Brotherhood for years. There was perfect silence for a few minutes, when the clear, strong voice of the moderator was distinctly heard far beyond the limits



of the tent, saying: 'All that are in favor of sustaining the Berlin Committee's report, rise to their feet.' Like one solid mass the assembly seemed to rise as one man. It was seemingly a solid vote. After they were seated those who were opposed to receiving the report were told to rise and about one hundred stood up, leaving the report of the Berlin Committee sustained by a most overwhelming majority. By this time it was 4 o'clock."—J. H. Moore.

Immediately after the report of the Berlin Committee was accepted, a meeting was arranged for by Holsinger's friends to consider what steps should be taken. This meeting met at a schoolhouse one mile west of the Conference ground. Elder P. J. Brown was chairman. A resolution of sympathy was extended to H. R. Holsinger. A petition addressed to the Standing Committee was drawn up, to the effect that another effort be made to bring about a reconciliation and prevent another division in the church. The Standing Committee refused to consider this petition, on the ground that it had not come in a proper way through a District Meeting.

A division, such as the Old Order Brethren had effected some nine months before, was now decided upon. A series of resolutions was passed and a convention was called, to be held at Ashland, Ohio, June 29, 1882. Such was the origin of the Progressive Brethren Church.

### ANNUAL MEETING OF 1888 North Manchester, Wabash County

The second Conference held at North Manchester was held within the town limits in the west part of what was known as Harter's Grove. This grove lies in the north part of town. The committee of arrangements was composed of Daniel Horning, foreman, Abraham Miller, Treasurer, A. L. Wright, secretary, Stephen C. Ulrey, John Miller and Emanuel Grossnickle. A tabernacle was provided to accommodate 4,500 people. Reports showed that the committee did its work well, and that the people were well taken care of.

This meeting will ever be remembered as the time and place where Elder James Quinter, of sacred memory, closed his earthly career. It was known and expected that he would be there. He was to preach in the tabernacle on Sunday morning. He arrived at the grounds on Saturday about noon. He called on Brother D. L. Miller at the *Messenger* office, and then went to listen to a sermon by Elder Daniel Vaniman. He was called on to close this service. This he began to do by reading hymn 810 in the old hymnal. After the singing of this hymn he gave a few fitting remarks and called to prayer. While thus engaged in pouring out his heart to God in behalf of this Conference, the heavenly messenger gave him the welcome to come home. His voice faltered and ceased. Brethren came to his side, and there amid the tears and sobs of



that large audience and the tender ministrations of loving hands, his spirit took its flight. After a few appropriate remarks by Elder Enoch Eby, the remains were prepared for its homeward journey. The next morning, at the time Elder Quinter was to have preached, memorial services were held for him, led by Enoch Eby and John Wise.

The report of the business meeting shows that it was a pleasant one. Enoch Eby was moderator, D. N. Workman, reading clerk, and J. G. Royer, writing clerk. Peter Long, Jacob Snell and William Harshbarger represented Indiana on the Standing Committee. Instead of many committees being called for to settle trouble in churches, much time was given to the work of the Mission Board and to the Publishing House.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1893** **Muncie, Delaware County**

The meeting this year was held in the city of Muncie, Southern Indiana. The meeting was held about a mile from town. The railroad company was very accommodating. Extra efforts were made to complete an electric line to the place of meeting. Ample buildings were provided for the various needs.

The first part of the Conference was made somewhat disagreeable by a cold rain. But the good people of Muncie helped to make things agreeable by their kindness. The pastors of the city churches invited the Brethren to fill their pulpits. On the grounds on Sunday excellent sermons were delivered by Brethren Enoch Eby, D. L. Miller, John Wise and B. F. Moomaw. On the platform at this meeting were three aged veterans of the cross, Samuel Murray, John Metzger and Hiel Hamilton. All three were Indiana brethren, though Brother Metzger had lived thirty years in Illinois and California. At the close of the Conference, Brother Metzger was asked to lead in the devotions. A few words from his address will be interesting:

"We have had an enjoyable meeting. To me it was a feast and I will not forget this meeting till I go to my grave. Sixty-three years ago I traveled through this neighborhood and lodged in the timber here. It rained nearly all night and there was no shelter near where Muncie is now. At that time ravenous beasts and savages were to be seen. Now we are highly favored, brethren and sisters in the Lord, in that God's people can meet here and worship Him in His own appointed way."

This meeting was organized with D. E. Price, moderator, John Wise, reading clerk, and J. G. Royer, writing clerk. W. R. Deeter, D. P. Shively and L. W. Teeter represented Indiana on the Standing Committee. There were able men on the committee from other parts of the Brotherhood. The Minutes of the meeting are long and show the various new questions that were coming before the Brotherhood.



### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1900** **North Manchester**

For the third time the Annual Conference came to North Manchester in 1900. After the Conference of 1899 had voted to have the next Conference in Middle Indiana, delegates of the District met in a special District Conference at North Manchester July 27, 1899. The chief work of this called conference was to elect a committee on arrangements. Those elected in order of the vote were: W. S. Toney, Frank Fisher, Dorsey Hodgden, S. S. Ulrey and D. P. Shively. This conference decided that the churches of Middle Indiana should furnish the necessary money to carry on the Conference.

The meeting was held in Harter's Grove again, but this time at the east side, some eighty rods from the site of the previous meeting. It was a very convenient place. The trains could thus bring the people right to the gate of the meeting ground. Homes for lodging were close. The ground was well suited for the buildings that were erected. Everything, as regards weather conditions, was favorable for a good meeting. One of the largest crowds, perhaps the largest up to this time that ever met at a Conference, was present on Sunday.

The preaching services were well arranged for. The opening days of the Conference were also the closing days of Manchester College. I. Bennett Trout gave the Baccalaureate address for the school. S. F. Sanger, George L. Studebaker, D. L. Miller, J. G. Royer, I. J. Rosenberger and others delivered able sermons on the ground. One speaker of note was M. G. Brumbaugh, of Philadelphia. His presence was all the more interesting from the fact that he had just been appointed by President McKinley as Commissioner of Education in Puerto Rico.

D. L. Miller was moderator of the meeting. This was his first experience in this office, though he had repeatedly served as writing clerk. L. W. Teeter was reading clerk, Daniel Hays, writing clerk, and Elder David Hollinger, of North Manchester, was doorkeeper. L. W. Teeter, J. H. Wright and J. C. Murray were Indiana delegates on the Standing Committee. On the committee this year were some men who were younger than was common in those days. George W. Lentz, of Missouri, was only 32.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1910** **Winona Lake**

For years the name "Winona" had been well known by the annual Bible conferences held there. It was with general satisfaction that the decision was made to have the Annual Meeting of 1910 at this place. Winona Lake is in Kosciusko County, two miles east of Warsaw. The Pennsylvania Railroad lands the passengers right at the gate of the meeting grounds. The Winona traction line carried passengers to and



from Warsaw. Perhaps no place has quite the good accommodations for lodging people at a meeting of this kind.

The Annual Meeting was held under the direction of Northern Indiana. Brother W. R. Deeter was foreman of the committee of arrangements. He had been foreman of the Conference at Arnold's Grove nearly thirty years before. The committee had their work well in hand at all times. This together with the excellent organization of the meeting gave to the whole Conference an excellent tone. H. C. Early was moderator, Galen B. Royer was reading clerk and J. W. Lear was writing clerk.

There were many excellent addresses during the Conference by such brethren as H. C. Early, I. N. H. Beahm, S. S. Blough, P. B. Fitzwater, D. L. Miller, J. J. Yoder, T. T. Myers and others. J. M. Studebaker, of South Bend, of the famous Studebaker Manufacturing Company, and a trustee of the Winona Assembly, gave an address to the Brethren during the Conference. There was also an address of welcome by Dr. S. C. Dickey, president of the Winona organization. One of his big surprises had been the large attendance at the meeting. He had heard of large crowds before, but this was beyond his expectation and belief until it was upon him. At a later meeting Dr. Dickey said that they numbered other assemblies by the thousands but had to count the Brethren by the acres.

One large question before the Conference was that pertaining to the dress regulations. This had caused no little anxiety for a few. It was fully discussed here, but carried over to the next year for a decision. This Conference consecrated and sent to the mission field two workers, Minerva Metzger to China and Ida C. Shoemaker to India.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1913**

#### **Winona Lake**

The general satisfaction that Winona Lake gave to the Brethren as a place for the Conference, caused many to desire that the meeting be held there soon again. There is no place in the Middle West that is quite so suitable as this. And as one District could hardly take care of the meeting so frequently, a movement was started to get all the districts in this part of the United States to join in the direction of the meeting. Nine Districts accepted the plan and each appointed a man on the committee of arrangements.

Whatever was said of the preceding Conference, as to large crowds, good meetings, and good impressions made, can also be said of this meeting. Heavy rains during the fore part of the Conference made the meetings somewhat disagreeable, but the excellent accommodations at hand offset this. Among the principal speakers of this meet-



ing were John Calvin Bright, David Metzler, T. T. Myers, J. P. Dickey, Geo. L. Studebaker, Otho Winger, D. D. Culler, J. W. Lear. Much emphasis was placed upon the special meetings such as Missionary, Sunday - school, Educational, Child Rescue Work, Peace and Temperance. Excellent addresses were prepared on all these subjects. The child rescue work brought forth much comment because of the presence of a number of children from the orphans' Home at Mexico. All of these meetings show that the Brethren are spending more time at the Conference each year dealing with the questions of forward movements for accomplishing things for Christ and the Church.

The missionary meeting this year was one of unusual interest. The missionary address was given by Elder Galen B. Royer, of the General Mission Board. A liberal offering was then lifted and a large consecration of lives for the Master was made. This Conference sent forth with its prayers the following to the field: Ida Buckingham, of Oakley, Ill., to Sweden; Brother and Sister A. F. Wine, of Chicago, Ill., to Denmark; Brother and Sister Ira Arnold of McPherson, Kans., to India; Anna V. Blough of Waterloo, Iowa, to China; Brother and Sister Ernest Vaniman of Lordsburg, Cal., to China; Dr. Fred Wampler and wife, of Harrisonburg, Va., to China; Drs. A. Raymond Cottrell and Laura M. Cottrell, North Manchester, Ind., to India; Dr. O. G. Brubaker and wife of Burlington, Ind., to China. The prayers of the Conference were also expressed in behalf of Brethren H. C. Early and Galen B. Royer who were appointed to visit the mission fields of the church.

The business meetings of the Conference were ably directed by the officers chosen: D. M. Garver, moderator, Geo. W. Lentz, reading clerk and S. N. McCann, writing clerk. The Conference left pleasant memories with all who attended, and a general desire to return again.

### **ANNUAL MEETING OF 1916** **Winona Lake**

For a third time the Conference was held at Winona Lake. The same Districts and almost the same committee directed the meeting as three years ago. The first session was on Wednesday evening, June 7. The opening address was given by Elder S. Z. Sharp, of Fruita, Colorado. He gave a stirring message on the "Triumph of the Kingdom of Christ." It was especially directed to the Standing Committee to impress them with the large duties and responsibilities. Elder Sharp, though past 80, spoke with the vigor of youth. This was his second time on the Standing Committee at Winona.

On Thursday morning the Standing Committee organized by selecting I. W. Taylor, moderator, George W. Lentz, reading clerk; A.



C. Wieand, writing clerk. Later S. S. Blough was chosen to assist the writing clerk and C. C. Cripe and H. A. Brubaker were appointed door-keepers.

The special Bible work of the first week was given under the direction of three colleges, Mt. Morris, Bethany and Manchester, represented by M. W. Emmert, E. B. Hoff and Otho Winger, respectively.

This Conference showed the increased activity of the Brethren church along many lines of work. There were many special conferences dealing with such questions as Dress Reform, Child Rescue, Sisters' Aid, Historical, Peace, Temperance, Sunday-school, Educational and Missionary. One new feature of the Conference was that when a meeting was being held in the auditorium, overflow meetings were held at different places dealing with the same subject. Many excellent speakers were on the program.

The missionary meeting on Monday was very impressive. Elder Frank Crumpacker, our pioneer missionary to China, delivered the principal address. It was a powerful appeal for the consecration of lives and money for the Master's service. Following this was an offering of more than \$25,000—the largest offering in the history of our Conferences.

Then followed the presentation of the out-going missionaries: I. E. Overholser and wife of Trotwood, Ohio, to China; Laura Shock of Huntington, Ind., as teacher of the children of missionaries in China. To India, A. L. Sellers and wife of Bryan, Ohio; A. T. Hoffert of Carlton, Neb.; Aubrey Coffman and wife of Bridgewater, Va.; Jennie Mohler, of Leeton, Mo.; Goldie Swartz of Ashland, Ohio; H. P. Garner and wife, Union Bridge, Maryland.

The business sessions of the Conference lasted until Thursday noon. Discussions of the subject were carried on in a pleasant spirit, though it must be said little of definite decisions was made. Three questions of great importance were carried over for next year: The Ministerial Question, Reorganizing of Church Boards, and the Saving of Our Children to the Church.

### SPECIAL CONFERENCE OF 1918 Goshen, Indiana

The District of Northwestern Kansas petitioned the officers of last Conference to call a General Conference for the purpose of considering problems of war with the view of outlining a course of procedure for the future. A strong majority of the Standing Committee of last Conference, upon being questioned, favored it, hence the officers called a Special Conference to meet at Goshen, Indiana, January 9, 1918.



The purpose of the Conference was to consider the draft for Military Training and Service, and the attitude our drafted brethren should maintain in the training camps, their spiritual care here and in Europe, if any were sent across the sea, relief work, and such other matters as may demand attention.

The representation at this conference included members of Standing Committee, the brethren from the various districts appointed to visit the Training Camps, and the Peace Committee. Anyone was welcome to attend.

The Peace Committee and the Brethren appointed to visit the Training Camps had previously met and prepared a paper for consideration at the Conference, a copy of which was sent to President Woodrow Wilson, the Secretary of War, Newton D. Baker, and the Provost Marshall, General Enoch Crowder. In substance the paper included:

1. Appreciation of the laws of our country that afford protection and Civil Liberty; also a declaration of our loyalty to our country, and our love for and prayers in behalf of our rulers.

2. Acknowledgment of exemption from combatant military service for us and other religious bodies, because of conscientious convictions against taking any part in war.

3. Our church throughout her history has steadfastly opposed taking part in war, and has consistently taught peace and the non-resistant doctrine, even though it meant much sacrifice of property, or even meant imprisonment or death.

4. Recognition of the good faith and intent of those who framed the draft law. However the carrying it out in the Training Camps varied. Some followed out the provisions of the law and were considerate of conscientious objectors, while others tried to intimidate and ridicule them in order to force them into military service. Some of our men were placed in Detention Camps which the Government graciously provided, but with nothing to do it created a grave problem for them. They would gladly work in any productive service if it could have been provided.

5. There is great need for the conservation of men; for the raising of food products, the production of fuel, the manufacture of needful articles and the transportation of materials.

6. In view of all these facts, we appeal to the President to assign us non-combatant duties in agriculture and peaceful industries wherein valuable service may be rendered without violation of conscience, non-



combatant service under military service, or relief work at home or abroad.

H. C. EARLY, moderator  
 OTHO WINGER, reading clerk  
 J. J. YODER, writing clerk

In addition to consideration of the above paper, the Conference went on record with a statement issued to the churches and to the drafted brethren. Amidst all the confusion in the world incident to the war, it is necessary to know the final authority and determining factor. It is found, not in our feeling, or popular acclaim, or persuasions of men, or in our own reasoning, but in the New Testament, which is our creed, and which is a revelation of God's Will, and which is a standard of conduct, Therefore, this Conference hereby declares her continued adherence to the principles of non-resistance held by the church since its organization in 1708.

1. We believe that war, or any participation in war, is wrong and entirely incompatible with the spirit, example and teaching of Christ.
2. That we cannot conscientiously engage in any activity or perform any function, contributing to the destruction of human life.

### THE FOUNDATION OF OUR BELIEF

1. The Old Testament was fulfilled in Christ, hence not the Christian's guide. Mt. 5:17; Rom. 10:4; Gal. 3:24,25; Eph. 2:14,15; Heb. 1:2.
2. Some teachings of the New Testament, the Christian's rule of action:
  1. Christians are servants of Christ. Rom. 8:9; Phillip. 2:5.
  2. Love motivates the Christian's conduct. I Jno. 3:16; Mt. 5:43-45; Lk. 6:27-35.
  3. Human Life sacred. Mt. 6:21, 22.
  4. Physical resistance and revenge is incompatible with Christian conduct. Mt. 5:38,39; Rom. 12:17-21; Mt. 26:52; Jno. 18:36; 2 Cor. 10:3,4.
  5. Suffering for righteousness sake a Christian's duty and privilege. Mt. 5:11, 12; Mt. 10:16-20; Jno. 15:17; Heb. 10:32-36.
  6. The instructions of John the Baptist to the soldiers. Lk. 3:14; Lk. 22:35-38.
3. The Lord's Example. I Peter 2:21-24; Mk. 15:16-20; Lk. 23:33f.
4. The Teachings and Example of the Apostolic Church. They endured without resistance the bitter persecution of their day.



### **THE CHURCH'S ATTITUDE TOWARD THE GOVERNMENT**

1. We are loyal citizens of this great nation which is a safeguard of our religious liberty and protector of our homes.

2. Our attitude to government and rules should be noted. Governments are ordained of God and their administrators are ministers of God. Rom. 13:1-7. We should pray for them. I Tim. 2:1,2. However, the Word and authority of God is supreme over all. And when the demands of men and governments conflict with the Word of God, we are bound by the latter, regardless of consequences. Acts 4:19; 5:21. Therefore we urge:

1. That our congregations pray for our rulers that war may cease and that we may again enjoy peace.

2. That they contribute liberally to relief of human suffering in men and money.

3. That they express gratitude to God for our favored position by giving freely to relief work, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., Friends Relief Work or through our Service Committee.

4. We urge our people to put forth greatest effort in cultivating our fields and gardens, planting such crops as will contribute to the real necessities of life; that they practice economy in food, clothing and other supplies, and thus aid a suffering world.

### **APPEAL FOR GREATER EFFORTS IN CHURCH AND MISSION WORK**

The present crisis calls for the greatest sacrifice in the interest of suffering humanity. Our young people are eager to do something commensurate with the sacrifice of others. Hence the Kingdom of God should be continually held before them, that they will enlist for service. The greatest service we can render is the promotion of the Kingdom of God. We need more pastors. The Sunday School work needs to be emphasized. As other sons go to the trenches, let ours volunteer for the salvation of the world.

We urge our churches to increase their offerings for missions. No one should lay up treasures on earth but give all possible for the salvation of the world.

### **CENTRAL SERVICE COMMITTEE**

A committee consisting of Brethren W. J. Swigart, I. W. Taylor and C. D. Bonsack were appointed to:

1. Represent the Church of the Brethren at Washington in all matters pertaining to the Church's relation to the Government during the war.

2. Advise with all those who visit the Training Camps to unify their work.



3. Be the avenue for all problems of the draft and settle difficulties.
4. To cooperate with committees of other churches with similar views on peace.
5. Expenses of this committee to be paid by Annual Meeting Treasurer.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF 1919**

#### **Winona Lake, Indiana**

The Annual Conference had been held at Winona Lake thrice, and the accommodations and the location were so satisfactory that it was taken for granted that when the Conference would come to the Central Region, that it would be located here. The officers of this meeting were moderator, H. C. Early of Virginia; reading clerk, Otho Winger, Indiana; writing clerk, James M. Moore of Illinois. There were 54 members of Standing Committee and 580 delegates from the local churches.

Several matters had been before the Conference for several years. One such item was, Saving Our Children for the Church; another, revision of Annual Meeting Minutes; another, revision of the Credential Blanks. These were all reported on, but continued. A problem settled was the qualification and duties of deacons, and a formula for the installation of church officials.

Twelve new items of business were brought in from the various districts, those of major importance being placed in the hands of committees for further study.

From the nature of the queries presented and a study of the reports from the General Boards and committees, it was evident the Conference and the Brotherhood at large is gradually becoming more concerned with methods of operation and the promotion of the Kingdom through the ministry and missions. This is as it should be.

### **CONFERENCE OF 1922**

#### **Winona Lake, Indiana**

It is about this time that the Winona Assembly decided to build a new auditorium, one that would seat 10,000 people. Since our church had been coming here every three years for some years, and planned to continue, it was considered only fair that we have a part, hence through solicitation a total of \$10,000 was contributed by our people.

The organization for this year was, moderator, I. W. Taylor of Pennsylvania; reading clerk, J. J. Yoder of Kansas; writing clerk, J. A. Dove of Virginia, with E. S. Coffman as Messenger and J. A. Buffenmyer as assistant.



The following unfinished business was considered at this meeting: A new Church Manual, A Plan for Standing Committee, Church Hospital, Licensing preachers, and affiliation with the American Legion. The first three were continued by committees, the fourth was adopted as recommended by the committee and the fifth was decided against.

Again there were twelve queries of new business presented: two regarding Bethany Biblical Seminary being owned by the church; one regarding a new hymnal; two concerning the requirements for those sitting at the Communion table, and three referring to the doctrinal position of the church. These were all given over to the consideration of committees, as was also one calling for clergy permit for our traveling ministers. The others were of minor importance and received an answer at once.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF 1925** **Winona Lake, Indiana**

This Conference was one of the largest in attendance in the history of the church, and one that was perhaps the longest remembered, for it was at this meeting that there was an outbreak of typhoid fever, contracted by drinking polluted water at the meeting. 131 deaths were later reported in the Gospel Messenger and countless others were not reported, besides many who were sick with the disease and recovered.

There were 69 members of Standing Committee and 562 delegates from local churches, making a voting body of 631. The conference was organized with Otho Winger as moderator, D. W. Kurtz as reader and I. B. Book, writing clerk. Chas. Morris and Foster Statler were messengers. The office of writing clerk had been increased to a three-year term in 1924 and Brother Book, who had been secretary that year was continued until his death in 1930.

Seven matters of important unfinished business were considered. The church hospital had been considered for several years, and while freely discussed, was not yet ready for final action. The Hymnal Committee after several years of work in preparation, completed their work and were dismissed. The commission on educational problems had labored long and faithfully. Part of their work was continued. Bethany Biblical Seminary was taken over as property of the Church. The problem regarding the work in small State Districts was considered but continued for further study by the Council of Promotion. Since there had been a difference in administering the anointing service in various parts of the country, a committee who had considered the matter recommended a serious study of the service and that ministers be governed by circumstances and the guidance of the Holy Spirit in the matter hereafter. The General Ministerial Board gave new direction as to the ministerial and pastoral care of the churches.



A new ruling on resident and non-resident members was adopted at this meeting, thereby attempting to unify and increase the work of the Kingdom.

Much of the new business was placed in the hands of committees for study and report later. None of major importance was passed at this meeting.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF 1929** **North Manchester, Indiana**

This year a large tent was erected on vacant ground just north of the College buildings, and many of the rooms in the College were used for smaller gatherings. The Conference was not as largely attended as it had been at Winona Lake.

Officers for the meeting were H. K. Ober of Pennsylvania, moderator; J. M. Moore of Pennsylvania, reading clerk; I. B. Book, writing clerk; Charles Zunkle and I. R. Beery were messengers. The Standing Committee numbered 68 and the delegates from churches were 550.

There were but three items of unfinished business for consideration at this meeting; one from the General Aid Society calling for a Board of Women's Work; one asking for help for aged ministers and missionaries, and the other for greater concern in regard to doctrinal teaching in the churches. All of these were of major importance but were not ready for final adoption, hence were continued for further study.

In the new business a strong request came for the conference to appoint a committee to work out plans for a union between all the Brethren bodies. Conference answered by appealing for greater unity in the Church of the Brethren and to receive in the regular way all who desire to unite with us. Strong requests came for this Conference to request the proper authorities to ban the theory of evolution from our schools and colleges, since it is in direct opposition to the Bible. Conference placed it in the hands of the Board of Religious Education.

### **CONFERENCE OF 1932** **Anderson, Indiana**

The 134th Annual Conference met at the above named place June 8-14, 1932. The meetings were held in a lovely wooded grove. The attendance was not as large as usual in the central region of the country. Officers of the meeting were, moderator, D. W. Kurtz; reading clerk, Charles D. Bonsack; writing clerk, J. E. Miller; messengers, D. C. Gnagy and Galen T. Lehman. Standing Committee numbered 65 and there were 340 delegates from churches.

In the unfinished business, the following items were considered:



for some years the question had been considered as to what are active and inactive members. The General Ministerial Board offered a solution which is still in operation. The deaconship had been under consideration also for some time by a committee, but their report was not satisfactory, so they were continued. A number of districts had presented queries in the past concerning the order of business at our Conferences. After a committee had considered and reported on the matter a few times, an agreement was reached which has continued with a few changes. A committee on Fraternal Relations had previously been appointed to work out a plan whereby an exchange of greetings might be extended between the various Brethren bodies. Such a committee has continued ever since, and has seemingly succeeded in drawing the various bodies together until organic union may be possible in the not too far distant future.

A few important items of new business were presented. One, proposing a change in the committee of arrangements was given to a committee for further study, as was also one on divorce and remarriage. A query referring to the matter of building and financing churchhouses was given over to the General Ministerial Board for further study.

The country was in the midst of a great financial depression at this time, and as a result some churches were considering dropping their pastoral program. Conference passed an urgent request that they continue, and that ministers continue to serve at a sacrifice, that the work of the Kingdom may not suffer.

The Board of Religious Education was the medium of several queries. One from the Young People asking to build up a church program of international goodwill by relief work among suffering people. Another from the Young People and the Women's Work that we reaffirm our position on the Eighteenth Amendment. Both of these were passed favorably. The name of the Board of Religious Education was changed to Board of Christian Education. A final paper from that board gave a statement of the church's position on war, which was adopted.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF 1935**

#### **Winona Lake, Indiana**

This was the seventh and final Conference held at beautiful Winona Lake. It was held June 5-11, 1935. The officers were C. C. Ellis, moderator; Rufus D. Bowman, reading clerk; J. E. Miller, writing clerk; with C. G. Hesse and John H. Good as messengers.

Not as many items of business came for action at this conference, but they were important. One called for a later date in the year to hold our conferences. This was placed in the hands of a committee for study. Since discipline has become lax in our Brotherhood as well as in other



Protestant bodies, a committee was requested to study the matter and it was granted. Another query called for a committee to give counsel to conscientious objectors in time of war. This was also granted.

The General Ministerial Board, after making an intensive study of the Ministerial Policy as it relates to the pastoral problem; their call, term of service, and change of pastors; the procedure in the placement of pastors; and the duties of Ministerial Boards—local, district and general—and their relation to each other, gave a lengthy report. However it was recommitted to the Board for further study. Another committee was made responsible for study of the problem of Home Missions. The committee that had been at work on the deaconship question for five years brought a report that was adopted. It summarized the former minutes on the question of their qualifications, their call, their installation and their term of service. The question of Associate Membership was proposed in a query. After consideration it was placed in the hands of the General Ministerial Board for study. A restatement of the Church's position on War and Peace was presented by the Peace Commission of the Board of Christian Education and was adopted. It follows:

“Conscious of the growing danger of war in the world today and feeling the need of a reaffirmation of our stand on peace and war, we, the Peace Commission of the Church of the Brethren, through the Board of Christian Education, recommend to the Annual Conference of 1935 the adoption of the following statement, which statement shall be submitted to the proper officials of our federal government and to the leaders of other churches in America:

“As a people we have opposed war at all times throughout our entire history of over two hundred twenty-five years and we have stood with equal consistency for constructive peace principles in all relationships of life. We hate war because we love peace, our way of life at all times. It has been the practice of the church through the years to require of applicants for membership a pledge not to engage in war nor learn the art of war. In our constant attempt to be truly devoted to the highest interest of our country, we have recognized that our supreme allegiance is to God, and we believe that recognition commits us to the highest standard of Christian citizenship by which we can serve our country and our God. We believe a Christian regard for other people increases rather than decreases our respect for and our attachment to our own nation.

“We believe that all war is sin; that it is wrong for Christians to support or to engage in it; and that war is incompatible with the spirit, example and teachings of Jesus. We believe that war is not inevitable. These beliefs are not based upon a peculiar peace doctrine of our own; they arise from our application of Christian standards to all human rela-



tions, whether individual, group, class, or national. To settle conflicts in any of these relationships by war is not efficient, not constructive, not permanent, and certainly not Christian. We believe that non-violence, motivated by goodwill, is more powerful than the sword, making possible the survival of both parties, while warfare insures the ultimate destruction of both. War is a far greater calamity to victor and vanquished alike, than would be the hazards incidental to a renunciation of war by a nation and the settlement of all their disputes by peaceful means.

"We believe that armaments for nations, like weapons for private defense, do not bring security, but rather intensify the dangers of conflict, as present world conditions tragically testify. We do not believe in the expenditure of our substance for those instruments which endanger our peace and safety. We believe in the only real preparedness for our nation—goodwill, and the agencies through which it may be expressed and maintained.

"We believe the whole war system is futile, always leaving more problems than it settles, if it settles any. Today, only a few years after winning the 'war to end war,' the United States is in the midst of the greatest of war preparation, and our country shares with other nations the general feeling of insecurity throughout the world. We believe that true democracy, 'Government of the people, by the people, and for the people,' is consistent with the spirit and principles of Christianity. But the fruit of war is not democracy; war destroys democracy as the prevalence of dictatorships of the communist, fascist, or other varieties, testifies. We cannot 'make the world safe for democracy,' by war.

"Consequently, we are committed to such interests as a program of peace education for all people; the development and support of the necessary international institutions to settle the disputes between nations by means other than war; the promotion of better relations between conflicting social or economic groups within our country; and honesty and a spirit of public service in our government.

"Likewise we are committed in our active opposition to all such interests as appropriations for military purposes; the manufacture of the munitions of war either for private profit or by the government; the teaching of the doctrines of military preparedness which are so unsound and so unchristian; voluntary or compulsory military training in our secondary schools and colleges; the challenge of our so-called 'war games' to other nations; the enactment of laws conscripting men or property for military purposes; neutrality laws that permit our citizens to profit from the trade of belligerents and draw us into wars; and the secret influence of munitions makers and military officials in conferences called to reduce or abolish armaments.

"Therefore, as Christian citizens, we are devoted in principle and



in action to the furtherance of every effort by our own nation or any other nation to promote peace in the world, and we are equally devoted in our opposition to those forces within or without our country which make for war, for class struggle, for civil disorder, or for personal conflict."—Commission: C. Ray Keim, O. W. Neher, L. W. Shultz.

Answer of Conference: We adopt this as our position on war and peace.

### **CONFERENCE OF 1939**

#### **Anderson, Indiana**

For the second time the General Conference convened at Anderson, Indiana. The officers of the meeting were, D. W. Kurtz, moderator; J. E. Miller secretary, and R. W. Schlosser, reading clerk; with R. L. Sherfy and Clarence Bowman as messengers.

A query brought in a year before asked what should be the attitude of the church toward one who enlists for military service, and what constitutes a member in good standing. The first part was answered by referring to past conference decisions and that such a one could not be held in full accord with the church though he should be dealt with in brotherly love and forbearance. The second part of the question was given over to the General Ministerial Board for answer. They recommended that in emergency cases one who lives a consistent Christian life and supports the church by attendance and gifts could be considered in full standing. Their recommendation was accepted.

Another query from the year before concerned the Bethany Hospital. A committee who had investigated presented a lengthy report setting forth the present condition of the Hospital. The committee was continued with two new members added.

Under the head of new business a query called for General Board members not to succeed themselves more than once. Conference referred this to a committee for study. Another query calling for Brethren Cooperative Insurance was also referred to a committee for study. The Council of Boards brought a request appealing for money to be used in relieving the sufferings in a war-stricken world, especially in China and Spain. Their request was granted by the Conference.

### **ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF 1945**

#### **North Manchester, Indiana**

The 159th recorded Conference of the Church of the Brethren convened at North Manchester, Indiana, June 6-10, 1945. A few years previous the United States was divided into five regions: the Southeastern, the Eastern, the Central, the Western, and the Pacific, the Conference to be located in one each year; the order being Southeastern, Western, Eastern, Central and Pacific; hence it was located in the



Central region this year. The sessions of the Conference were held in the College auditorium. Because of the war conditions the attendance was restricted though there was a large delegate attendance—83 on Standing Committee and 680 from the churches, making a voting body of 763.

The Conference theme was "Witnessing for Christ—'ye are my witnesses.'" The officers of the meeting were: Warren D. Bowman, moderator, with Rufus Bucher alternate; William Beahm, secretary and Calvert Ellis, reader; J. Clyde Forney and Nevin Zuck were messengers.

For some years there had been a movement on for a general reorganization of the General Boards, and greater emphasis on Home Missions. A committee had been studying the situation for some time. Through their recommendation at this conference a commission of fifteen brethren were elected to study the whole church organization and area of service. This commission was appointed. A query was also before the Conference relative to nominations for the various Board members. Conference decided that Standing Committee meet earlier and take more time for study, then submit two names for each office to be filled, these nominations to be voted on by the delegate body.

A year earlier queries had come in calling for a study of the ownership and control of church properties. A committee had been appointed to study the problem. Their report this year recommended that in each district a committee work with the churches to provide a system in harmony with their state law.

Another important item of unfinished business was a study of the need for more efficient teaching to stem the tide of inactive membership. A committee had been at work on the problem but could only report progress, hence were continued. A committee had also been studying the problem of Ministerial discipline. They reported that Conference already has sufficient rulings on the matter and referred to Revised Minutes pp. 90-92.

For many years interest had been shown in a Historical Society for the preservation of records and materials of historical interest. Previously a committee had been appointed to study the field. They presented a comprehensive report at this meeting and recommended a continuing committee to collect materials at Elgin and through the Colleges. Their recommendation was adopted.

A year earlier Standing Committee asked the Conference Trustees to study and report on their responsibilities, activities and legal status. They reported progress at this meeting but asked for more time to complete their task, which was granted.

Several years previous, by action of Annual Conference, the Church of the Brethren began affiliation with the Federal Council of



Churches of Christ in America. This action caused much disturbance and dissatisfaction in the Brotherhood. In 1944 a committee had been appointed to study the facts and report this year with a view of unifying the church. They presented a very complete report and recommended that the church continue to affiliate, and that a committee be appointed to create a better understanding in the church. Conference deliberated at length on the question and the report of the committee, and finally voted favorably on the committee's recommendations.

A large per cent of the new business this year related to finance. A request came for a mutual aid society to help young people establish homes. This was referred to the Church Investment Council for study. Another request asked for special Sunday School lessons each year emphasizing the distinctive doctrines and ordinances of the church. This was turned over to the Board of Christian Education for consideration. Another query asked that a study be made to better serve the colored race in our country. This was given over to the Council of Boards to consider.

The Board of Christian Education brought a request for the publication of a new hymnal. This was authorized with the understanding that the new hymnal be ready by 1950. The Board of Christian Education was authorized to proceed in preparing the hymnal.

The Council of Boards presented an appeal for special emphasis on Evangelism, both through the church and Sunday School. Thirteen queries relating to various phases of finance, covering the Budget, Pensions, the Colleges and Seminary, Brethren Service and Missions, etc. all received due consideration and were granted.

The nation was considering compulsory military training for young men at this time, and the Council of Boards prepared a statement which was endorsed by the Conference to be presented in person by the moderator, giving the church's position on it.



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